

PSYCHOLOGY

Psychology is the scientific study of mind and behaviour and involves the examination of various theories and consideration of research studies.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry to include GCSE Mathematics at a minimum of grade 5, Double Award GCSE Science at a minimum 4,4 and GCSE English Literature and Language at grade 4 (please refer to the Entry Requirements section on the college website for further details).

Introduction

At the beginning of the course in Psychology you will explore questions such as:

- Are mental disorders like depression genetic or learned?
- How does our memory work?
- How does childhood affect later romantic relationships?

At the beginning of the course, we introduce you to all of the topics you will study and support you by showing you important study skills and resources available to help you succeed. There are also educational day trips and visits to enhance and enrich your studies.

How will I be assessed?

100% Examination.

What will I study?

In paper one, you will study cognitive psychology, developmental psychology, social psychology and clinical psychopathology. This includes finding out about how memory works and how accurate memory is. You will study the impact of early childhood experiences on development and why people conform and obey in social situations, as well as learning about phobias, depression and obsessive-compulsive disorder. You will study the causes and treatments as well as how to carry out psychological research.

Topics on paper two include psychological approaches which look to explain why we behave the way we do, including the biological, cognitive and behavioural approaches. Additionally you will learn how psychologists conduct their research, from the methods they use to how they analyse their data. You will also study biopsychology, which will include understanding the relationship between the brain and behaviour.

In the second year of the A level you will study topics such as schizophrenia and aggression, which includes determining different causes of aggression and how schizophrenia is diagnosed and treated.

Where will this course lead me?

Psychology is very useful in any career that involves working with people, e.g. in social care, policing, or teaching. Many students continue to study Psychology at university which can lead to a variety of careers including clinical, educational, sport, health, or forensic psychology.