**A Level Psychology**

**What Will You Study?**

* **Social Influence -** What makes people follow the crowd? What gives some of us the power to resist?
* **Memory -** Can you remember everything you have done in the last 24 hours? What happens when you invent events to fill the gaps?
* **Attachment -** How are emotional bonds with our caregivers built? How do earliest attachments leave a lasting mark on our lives?
* **Psychopathology -** What does it mean to be abnormal? An exploration of the definitions, explanations and treatments of psychological disorders including; phobias and depression.
* **Approaches In Psychology -** Where does psychology originate from? Who were the key researchers that established the main approaches we study in psychology today?
* **Research Methods -** Scientific methods are explored alongside a thorough consideration of the ethical issues relating to psychological research.
* **Biopsychology** - Focuses on explaining behaviour biologically by considering the role of genetics, brain physiology and biochemistry.
* **Issues and Debates in Psychology –** What is the nature vs. nurture debate? Is psychological research biased to males?
* **Relationships –** How do we choose a mate? What strategies to we use to attract a mate? Once we have found a potential partner, how do we form a relationship with them? How do we maintain the relationship to ensure commitment and trust? What happens when a relationship breaks down?
* **Schizophrenia –** What happens when individuals cannot tell the difference between fantasy and reality? Are men more likely to get schizophrenia than women? How does schizophrenia develop? Is it to do with our biology or our environment? How can we treat the illness? Should we give people drugs or provide them with strategies to cope and take responsibility for their illness?
* **Forensics**- Why do people commit crimes? Is criminality a product of our nature or nurture? How do we treat criminality?



**When Will You Study it?**

You will have **10 lessons a fortnight** over the period of two years.

The lessons will be taught in ways that will develop a number of skills that benefit student development, including: independent and group work; presentations; research projects; exam question application and analysis.

This Psychology science course ensures that all students are given the opportunity to acquire the essential skills necessary for further study and successful scientific research.

**What Skills Will You Get from Studying Psychology?**

The skills you will gain and improve upon include:

* Research skills
* Analytical skills
* Problem solving
* Team working
* Presentation skills
* Communication skills
* Interpersonal skills

**What Kind of Career Does Psychology Lend Itself to?**

* Clinical Psychology
* Mental Health Nursing
* Counselling
* Human Resources
* Management
* Teaching
* Social Work
* Occupational Psychology
* Sport Psychology
* Criminology
* Forensic Psychology
* Nursing and midwifery



**How Will I Be Assessed?**

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| **Paper** | **Title** | **Assessment** | **Marks Available** | **Percentage of A Level** |
| 1 | **Introductory Topics in Psychology***Social Influence, Memory, Attachment, Psychopathology* | 2 Hour Examination | 96 Marks | 33.3% |
| 2 | **Psychology in Context***Approaches in Psychology, Biopsychology, Research Methods* | 2 Hour Examination | 96 Marks | 33.3% |
| 3 | **Issues and Options in Psychology***Issues and Debates in Psychology, Relationships, Schizophrenia and Forensics* | 2 Hour Examination | 96 Marks | 33.3% |