PSYCHOLOGY

Entry Requirement: Grade 6 or above in GCSE Sciences. Grade 6 or above in GCSE Mathematics and Grade 6 or above in English (Language or Literature). All three requirements need to be met.

Examination Board: AQA 7182

Course Content and Assessment

Paper 1: **Introductory Topics in Psychology**

(33.3 % of the A Level 2 hour examination)

- Social Influence
- Memory
- Attachment
- Psychopathology

Paper 2: **Psychology in Context**

(33.3 % of the A Level, 2 hour examination)

- Approaches
- Biopsychology
- Research Methods

Paper 3: **Issues and Options in Psychology**

(33.3 % of the A Level mark, 2 hour examination)

- Issues and Debates in Psychology
- Three topics (To be selected by department staff) from following options:

Relationships, Gender, Cognition & Development, Schizophrenia, Eating Behaviour, Stress, Aggression, Forensic Psychology, Addiction.

Teaching and Learning Methods

Teaching will be shared between two teachers. Lessons will be mainly classroom based with the opportunity of conducting investigations 'in the field' (natural environment) where appropriate. Teaching is conducted using interactive whiteboard presentations and videos as well as other techniques. Pupils will engagte in a variety of activities such as presentations in groups, various kinaesthetic tasks, alongside independent note taking.

Homework

Homework will be set each week by each teacher on an agreed day of the week. The homework task will complement work carried out in class or be as preparation for a new topic.

Trips and Visits

At the end of Year 12 we hold a 'Brain Day' at Parmiter's which includes a demonstration of the dissection of an animal brain and lectures by a neuroscientist.
In Year 13 there is a visit to London Zoo where the students get to take part in a demonstration by a psychologist on the treatment of phobias.

Materials

The purchase of a class text book is required at the start of term in each year. Other text books are available for reference as are various DVDs and computer software within the department.

Key Features

Psychology is a very popular subject that extends beyond the boundaries of the classroom. It develops critical thinking and examines theories of the human mind and behaviour.