



# 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 the 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. Students will engage 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 textbook is required at the start of term in each year. Other textbooks 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.