

# Psychology

**Awarding Body:** Students follow the AQA Advanced Subsidiary and Advanced GCE courses.

**Course Content and examination Requirements:** The course comprises of two units per year.

Year 12	Year 13
<b>AS Level Units</b>	<b>A2 units leading to full Advanced GCE</b>
<p><b>Unit 1 Cognitive Psychology, Development Psychology and Research Methods</b> Written Paper, 1 hour 30 minutes 50% of total AS marks, 25% of total A Level marks</p> <p>Structured compulsory questions based on Cognitive Psychology, Developmental Psychology and Research Methods.</p> <p>Questions include short answer, stimulus material and one 12-mark question requiring extended writing in which QWC will be assessed.</p>	<p><b>Unit 3 Topics in Psychology</b> Written Paper, 1 hour 30 minutes 25% of total A Level marks Three essay-style questions chosen from the eight topics. QWC will be assessed in each essay.</p>
<p><b>June Exam</b> <b>Subject Content</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cognitive psychology, including memory and eyewitness testimony</li> <li>• Developmental psychology, including early social development, attachment and the effects of day care</li> <li>• Research methods, in the context of the topic areas</li> </ul>	<p><b>January Exam</b> <b>Subject Content</b> Three from</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biological rhythms and sleep</li> <li>• Perception</li> <li>• Relationships</li> <li>• Aggression</li> <li>• Eating behaviour</li> <li>• Gender</li> <li>• Intelligence and learning</li> <li>• Cognition and development</li> </ul>
<p><b>Unit 2 Biological Psychology, Social Psychology and Individual Differences</b> Written Paper, 1 hour 30 minutes 50% of total AS marks, 25% of total A Level marks</p> <p>Three compulsory structured questions; one based on Biological Psychology content, one based on Social Psychology content and one based on the Individual Differences content.</p> <p>Questions include short answer, stimulus material and one or more 12-mark questions requiring extended writing in which QWC will be assessed.</p>	<p><b>Unit 4 Psychopathology, Psychology in Action and Research Methods</b> Written Paper, 2 hours 25% of total A Level marks Three sections: Psychopathology: One essay-style question chosen from three. QWC will be assessed in this essay.  Psychology in Action: One question chosen from three.  Research Methods: One compulsory structured question.</p>
<p><b>January Exam</b> <b>Subject Content</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biological psychology, including stress, factors affecting stress, coping with stress and managing stress</li> <li>• Social psychology, including conformity, obedience and independent behaviour</li> <li>• Individual differences, including definitions of abnormality, approaches and therapies.</li> </ul>	<p><b>June Exam</b> <b>Subject Content</b> Psychopathology – knowledge and understanding of models, classification, diagnosis and therapies in relation to one disorder chosen from:  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Schizophrenia</li> <li>• Depression</li> <li>• Anxiety disorder</li> </ul>           Psychology in Action – one contemporary issue chosen from:  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Media psychology</li> <li>• The psychology of addictive behaviour</li> <li>• Anomalous psychology</li> </ul>           Psychological Research and Scientific Method</p>

The course is designed to develop a students' basic understanding of human nature and development, and give a good foundation for an appreciation of cultural, social and contemporary issues from a psychological perspective.

Psychology combines well with other subjects – both Arts and sciences and it has much to offer candidates who wish to widen their horizons as well as acquire knowledge which will enhance their study of other subjects.

Students must have achieved at least a Grade 'B' at GCSE level in English Language and Grade 'A' in GCSE Mathematics and any GCSE Science.

**Further Information: Mrs M. Lloyd**