

Entry Requirements

A keen attitude and an interest in scientific research about the study of human behaviour is necessary. Students will need to be able to express themselves effectively both in written and oral work and will preferably have achieved grade B in GCSE Mathematics, English and Science. There is no requirement for prior knowledge of psychology when embarking on this course and we do not expect candidates to have taken the GCSE Psychology course. However, the specification builds on knowledge and understanding included within the GCSE course, with coverage of some topics in greater depth and the introduction of new topic areas to engage and further stimulate students.

Why choose Psychology?

It is a fascinating subject looking at why we think, feel and behave in the way we do. Students find it a very interesting and challenging course and many decide to continue with Psychology at university level.

Organisation of the course

The course consists of 4 Modules studied over two years

Year 12**Unit 1**

Introducing Psychology - 50% AS
(25% whole A2)

Unit 2

Social and Cognitive Psychology and Individual Differences - 50% AS
(25% whole A2)

Year 13**Unit 4**

Child development and Applied Options - 50% A2
(25% whole A2)

Unit 5

Approaches, Debates and Methods in Psychology - 50% A2 (25% whole A2)

The methods of assessment

At AS - Unit 2 [PSYB2] is examined in January; Unit 1 [PSYB1] is taken in May. Each examination is a one and a half hour written paper. There is no coursework.

At A2 - Unit 4 [PSYB4] is examined in January of Year 13 and Unit 5 (PSYB5) in the following June. Both examinations are written papers of two hours duration. There is no coursework.

Career path and degree course progressions

Psychology has many career paths with degree courses leading to a career as a Chartered Psychologist (Clinical, Forensic, Occupational, Counselling or Sport) after Post Graduate study or into Teaching, working for the Police and the Prison Service, Social Work, Nursing and Advertising/Business.

Further course information

Students will study psychological theories and research into areas such as Autism, memory, gender development and conformity at AS level. At A2, areas such as forensic psychology, schizophrenia and child psychology abuse will be explored.