

Psychology A Level

A Level Psychology (AQA)

Psychology is the scientific study of behaviour and mental processes. Students explore key questions about why people think, feel and behave as they do — for example, why do people conform to groups? What causes false memories? How can mental health conditions such as phobias be explained and treated? What happens to behaviour when the brain is damaged? Throughout the course, students use established theories and research evidence to investigate these issues. They will also develop skills in analysing and evaluating research, applying knowledge to real-world situations, and constructing clear, well-structured essays.

Course Content

Year 1 (AS Content)

- Social Influence
- Memory
- Attachment
- Clinical Psychology
- Approaches in Psychology
- Biopsychology
- Research Methods

Year 2 (A Level Content)

- Issues and Debates in Psychology
- Gender
- Schizophrenia
- Forensic Psychology
- Research Methods (continued and applied)

Expectations and Assessment

Students are regularly assessed on prior learning and are expected to complete independent study outside of lessons. This includes using the textbook, revising key theories and research, and practising exam-style questions and essays under timed conditions. The course places strong emphasis on developing evaluative skills, applying knowledge and writing extended responses.

Careers in psychology:

Psychology provides a strong foundation for a wide range of careers. Direct routes include clinical psychology, counselling, forensic psychology, teaching and educational psychology. However, the skills gained are also highly transferable and valued in many other fields such as the police, prison services, healthcare, marketing, business and human resources.

Entry Requirements

GCSE Science Grades 6/6

