

PSYCHOLOGY

Examination Board: EDUQAS **Qualification:** A level

Teacher Contact: Mr Fenwick

Entry Requirements:

Grade C or above in English Language, Science and Mathematics. The work requires you to have good extended writing skills and a good understanding of Mathematics.

What will I study?

The first year course is comprised of two components:

Component 1: Past to Present

Students study five different approaches that psychologists use to study behaviour. Each approach involves the study of classic pieces of research evidence and contemporary debate.

Component 2: Investigating Behaviour

Students study the principles of research, studying how psychological investigations are carried out (including social and developmental psychology). Students carry out their own investigation to aid their understanding of research methodologies and are required to apply their knowledge to a novel scenario.

The second year course is comprised of 3 components:

Component 1 and 2 are studied with greater detail required than for the AS course.

Additionally, **component 3: Implications in the Real World** involves the study of the application of the approaches studied in component 1 to particular behaviours. Students should be able to explain and draw conclusions about the possible causes of these behaviours and understand that psychology has the potential to impact on society as a whole by developing methods of modifying behaviour. Students also explore five controversies that continue to pose challenges for psychology that draw on the content from the whole of the course.

Am I suited to this course?

You would be well-suited to studying Psychology at A level if you:

- love finding out about how the human mind works!
- enjoy working independently as well as in groups
- respond well to discussion and like giving mini-presentations
- enjoy finding out what makes people do the things they do
- are well motivated and enjoy problem solving
- are interested in a career in Psychology



What other subjects does it complement?

Psychology complements a number of other subjects, but particularly Sociology, Law, Biology, Mathematics and PE.

Where can it lead?

Studying Psychology provides useful preparation for students wishing to enter teaching, nursing or personnel. The course encourages personal as well as academic development and is recognised as useful preparation for many university courses.

What has been said?

'One of the most interesting subjects I have ever done. Finding out about the workings of the mind really enticed me into wanting a career in this field. Great fun!'

'A really interesting subject to study, there is a lot of work involved but it is worth it.'
– Year 12 students.