



PARK HIGH SCHOOL

Psychology

Exam Board: AQA

Course Specification: [7182](#)

Qualification obtained: AQA Advanced Level GCE in Psychology

Lead Teacher: Mrs Unadkat

Email: vbackory.310@parkhighstanmore.org.uk

Subject Overview:

A Level Psychology offers an engaging and effective introduction to Psychology. Students will learn the fundamentals of the subject and develop skills valued by Higher Education (HE) and employers, including critical analysis, independent thinking and research. Psychology will look more in-depth to the following questions:

- Why do people behave the way they do?
- Why do people conform? Why do people obey?
- How do we remember and why do we forget?
- How do our earliest relationships influence our later ones?
- What happens when you cut a brain in half?
- Why do phobias exist?
- How can we treat depression?
- Does free will exist?
- Is there such a thing as a male or female brain?
- How do we tell the difference between science and pseudoscience?
- Are people born or made criminal?

Assessment percentage Exam: 100%

Progression Routes:

Psychology is a great subject to study because it will not only give you several transferable skills, it will also teach you more about the way people think. An understanding of the human mind is useful in several careers.

Possible degree options according to bestcourse4me.com, the top seven-degree courses taken by students who have an A-level in psychology are Psychology, English studies, Sociology, Business studies, Teaching, Sport and exercise science and Law.

GCSE Subject Exam results minimum requirements:

- A Grade 5 in *Mathematics* and a Grade 5 in *English Language*
- At least 6 other GCSE subjects with Grade 4s.

Complementary learning:

- English
- Physical Education
- Biology
- Sociology
- Business Studies
- Mathematics

Student Quotes:

"Psychology is interesting as we learn new things about ourselves and how we work as humans."

"I chose to study A-level Psychology out of a desire to understand why people do what they do, but it has proved to have far wider applications."

Year 12

Psychology A level is split into three components which are taught over the course Year 12 & 13, each component is equally weighted with subtopics within each.

Topics covered:

Component 1: Introductory topics in psychology

- Social influence
- Memory
- Attachment
- Psychopathology

Component 2: Psychology in context

- Approaches in Psychology
- Biopsychology
- Research methods

Year 13

Psychology A level is split into three components which are taught over the course Year 12 & 13, each component is equally weighted with subtopics within each.

Topics covered:

Component 3: Issues and Options

- Issues and debates
- Cognition
- Schizophrenia
- Aggression
- Exam Preparation

Assessment

Is 100% Exam. There are three separate two-hour exams at the end of Year 13.

Unit Code	Unit Title	Assessment Details	Weighting
Component 1	Introductory Topics in Psychology	Written Examination: 96 marks, 2hr	33.33%
Component 2	Psychology in context	Written Examination: 96 marks, 2hr	33.33%
Component 3	Issues and Options	Written Examination: 96 marks, 2hr	33.33%

Additional information

Course specific equipment:

- Lever Arch Folders
- Paper

Essential Reading Material:

AQA A-level Psychology Book 1. Cara Flanagan, Paperback

ISBN-10: 9781908682406

AQA A-level Psychology Book 2. Cara Flanagan, Paperback

ISBN-10: 9781908682413

Recommended resources:

Websites:

www.unconsciouscurriculum.com

<https://www.tutor2u.net/psychology>

Novels:

Psychology Review – Phillip Allan.

Enrichment:

Trip to London Zoo

Attend Psychology Conferences