

COURSE GUIDE - PSYCHOLOGY

WHAT IS PSYCHOLOGY?

Psychology is the study of human behaviour and the human mind. This subject explores how human's think and why we act in certain ways.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

This subject explores psychological concepts, theories and studies. There are numerous topics covered in this subject:

- Topic 1: Development – How did you develop?
- Topic 2: Memory – How does your memory work?
- Topic 3: Psychological problems – How would psychological problems affect you?
- Topic 4: The brain and neuropsychology – How does your brain affect you?
- Topic 5: Social influence – How do others affect you?
- Topic 6: Criminal psychology – Why do people become criminals?

Psychology also explores Research Methods which includes areas of science and maths.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

This subject has 2 exams at the end of Year 11. There is no coursework or controlled assessment.

- Paper 1: 1 hour and 45 minutes (98 marks)
- Paper 2: 1 hour and 20 minutes (79 marks)

These exams include multiple choice, short answer and extended writing questions.

HOW CAN I PROGRESS?

Psychology includes elements of maths, science and written work. It uses skills such as description, evaluation and analysis. To progress in this subject you need to understand a range of key vocabulary and be able to both describe and evaluate psychological concepts, theories and studies.

FURTHER INFORMATION

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/psychology-2017.html>

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/GCSE/Psychology/2017/Specification%20and%20sample%20assessments/GCSE-Psychology-draft-specification.pdf>

