

A-level Psychology

Curriculum content

| Half term | Year 12 | Year 13 |
|-----------------|---|--|
| Autumn 1 | Approaches Biopsychology Memory Research methods | Relationships Biopsychology Issues & Debates Approaches Research methods |
| Autumn 2 | Memory Psychopathology Research methods | Relationships Biopsychology Y12 revision |
| Spring 1 | Attachment Psychopathology Research methods | Forensic Stress Y12 revision |
| Spring 2 | Attachment Social influence Mock prep + revision | Forensic Stress Y12 revision |
| Summer 1 | Social influence Issues & Debates Research methods | Revise Year 1 + Year 2 content and exam practice |
| Summer 2 | Issues & Debates Research methods | Study Leave |

Skills

The skills developed throughout the course include:

- recalling detailed information accurately
- drawing together information from different areas of psychology
- applying knowledge and understanding of key issues in psychology
- analysing and evaluating approaches which underpin human behaviour
- constructing extended responses to questions, showing reasoning and conclusive skills
- communicating with relevance, clarity and coherence
- identifying research methods and principles in psychological research
- using mathematical procedures
- Demonstrating knowledge and understanding of psychological concepts, theories, research studies, research methods and ethical issues in relation to the content
- Applying psychological knowledge and understanding of the content into a range of new situations
- Analysing, interpreting and evaluating psychological concepts, theories, research studies and research methods to the content.
- Evaluating therapies and treatments including in terms of their appropriateness and effectiveness
- At least 25 – 30% of the overall assessment will assess skills, knowledge and understanding in relation to research methods.
- Overall, at least 10% of the marks in assessments for psychology will require the use of mathematical skills. These skills will be applied in the context of A-level Psychology and will be at least the standard of higher tier GCSE mathematics.

Assessment

Internal assessment takes place in each unit of work throughout the course, and in line with the school's assessment policy. For the award of the qualification, this Linear A level from AQA is examined entirely by examination at the end of Year 13. There are three papers, each equally weighted: Further details about the course can be found at <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/psychology/as-and-a-level/psychology-7181-7182>

Paper 1 – Introductory topics in psychology

Paper 2 – Psychology in context

Paper 3 – Issues and options in psychology