

|                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>TITLE</b>              | <b>PSYCHOLOGY (A LEVEL)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>BOARD</b>              | AQA                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>INTRODUCTION</b>       | The mind is something intangible that exists within our brain. An unseen process of enzymes, chemicals and electric current moving within the structure of our neural networks dictates why we feel, think and behave the way we do. But why is it that some people suffer from stress and mental illness? Why do some fear snakes yet some think them cuddly? Psychology looks at questions like these in the study of the human mind and behaviour. It is a science that has real world applications to issues in everyday life.                              |
| <b>COURSE STRUCTURE</b>   | There are eight compulsory subjects to study and three optional groups of topics to choose from. (See overleaf) The current Upper Sixth are studying options 9. Relationships, 13. Eating Behaviour and 15. Aggression which are likely to roll through.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>ASSESSMENT</b>         | Three papers are taken at the end of the second year.<br><br>Paper 1: Introductory topics in psychology<br>Paper 2: Psychology in context<br>Paper 3: Issues and options in psychology                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>GENERAL COMMENTS</b>   | Psychology has links with many disciplines including biological, computer and forensic science as well as humanities such as sociology, philosophy, anthropology and even literature. It involves study of theory, empirical evidence and practical applications. This mix of disciplines helps to make psychology such a fascinating subject.                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>PROGRESSION</b>        | Psychology is useful for any job that requires lots of interaction or an understanding of human behaviour and development. People with skills in psychology are sought after in business, management, teaching, research, social work and careers in medicine and healthcare.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>ENTRY REQUIREMENTS</b> | <b>Students are required to have achieved at least a grade 6 in GCSE English Language. It is also desirable to have achieved at least a grade 6 in Maths and a grade 6 in Biology.</b><br><b>In the case of over-subscription, students will be required to achieve a grade 6 in Mathematics, or grade 6-6 in Trilogy Science, or a grade 6 in Biology/Chemistry, and an additional task will be set during Induction Week in June to help determine who should study the subject.</b><br>If you have any questions regarding this course please see Ms Whelan. |

## AQA A level Psychology

### Subject content

| Compulsory content:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Optional – one each from:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Social influence</li> <li>2. Memory</li> <li>3. Attachment</li> <li>4. Psychopathology</li> <li>5. Approaches in psychology</li> <li>6. Biopsychology</li> <li>7. Research methods</li> <li>8. Issues and debates in psychology</li> </ol> | <p><b>Option 1</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9. Relationships</li> <li>10. Gender</li> <li>11. Cognition and development</li> </ol> <p><b>Option 2</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12. Schizophrenia</li> <li>13. Eating behaviour</li> <li>14. Stress</li> </ol> <p><b>Option 3</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>15. Aggression</li> <li>16. Forensic psychology</li> <li>17. Addiction</li> </ol> |

### Assessments

| Paper 1: Introductory topics in psychology                                                                                                              | + | Paper 2: Psychology in context                                                                                                                          | + | Paper 3: Issues and options in psychology                                                                                                                                      |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>What's assessed</b></p> <p>Compulsory content 1-4 above</p>                                                                                       |   | <p><b>What's assessed</b></p> <p>Compulsory content 15-7 above</p>                                                                                      |   | <p><b>What's assessed</b></p> <p>Compulsory content 8 above</p> <p>Optional content: one from Option 1 (9-11), one from Option 2 (12-14), one from Option 3 (15-17) above.</p> |
| <p><b>Assessed</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Written exam: 2 hrs</li> <li>• 96 marks in total</li> <li>• 33.3% of A level</li> </ul> |   | <p><b>Assessed</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Written exam: 2 hrs</li> <li>• 96 marks in total</li> <li>• 33.3% of A level</li> </ul> |   | <p><b>Assessed</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Written exam: 2 hrs</li> <li>• 96 marks in total</li> <li>• 33.3% of A level</li> </ul>                        |
| <p><b>Exam format</b></p> <p>Multiple choice, short answer and extended writing</p>                                                                     |   | <p><b>Exam format</b></p> <p>Multiple choice, short answer and extended writing</p>                                                                     |   | <p><b>Exam format</b></p> <p>Multiple choice, short answer and extended writing</p>                                                                                            |