LEVEL 3 AWARD

A-LEVEL IN PSYCHOLOGY

WHY DO PSYCHOLOGY?

Psychology is the scientific study of mental functions and behaviours. In this A Level Psychology course you will gain fascinating insights into the human mind and what makes people tick. This course is now classed as a science as opposed to one of the humanities. Psychology courses are increasingly popular both because of their intrinsic appeal and their value as a step on the way not just to careers in psychology, but careers in the health professions and any other employment sector that relies on people skills and communication. This A Level Psychology course covers a broad range of subjects, including cognitive, social, biological, developmental, individual differences and research methods. You'll gain an understanding of why people develop differently and of the causes of conditions such as schizophrenia and eating disorders. As you study the A Level Psychology course you will gain an understanding of the main issues that arise from various psychological methods, and look at the ways in which psychology can be applied. You will learn to conduct effective research and how to interpret the results, how to use statistics effectively and deal with ethical issues. As you discover how others think, you'll also be gaining an insight into your own psyche and behavioural traits, which is a valuable asset in both your personal and working life.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- GCSE English Language, Maths **and** Science with a minimum grade of C or 4, though grade 5 for English Language is recommended
- See application form for restrictions on number of A Levels that can be undertaken
- A good school/College report

COURSE STRUCTURE

This qualification is a two-year course. At the end of the 2nd year, students will sit all 3 papers of the A level qualification:

A-LEVEL PSYCHOLOGY 7182		
Paper 1	**Introductory Topics in Psychology** (Social Influence, Memory, Attachment, Psychopathology)	• written exam: 2 hours • 33.3% of A-level 4 compulsory structured sections, each section worth 24 marks.
Paper 2	**Psychology in Context** (Approaches in Psychology, Biopsychology, Research Methods)	• written exam: 2 hours • 33.3% of A-level 3 compulsory structured sections, 2 worth 24 marks and 1 worth 48 marks.
Paper 3	**Issues and Options in Psychology** (Issues and debates in Psychology) Option 1: Relationships, Gender, Cognition & Development Option 2: Schizophrenia, Eating Behaviour, Stress Option 3: Aggression, Forensic Psychology, Addiction	• written exam: 2 hours • 33.3% of A-level 1 compulsory structured section, plus 3 sections with optional topics. All sections worth 24 marks each.