



Extended Certificate in Applied Psychology

Key contact: Mrs E Israel (Head of Psychology)
Exam Board: Pearson

Overview of the course:

Psychology is a popular subject to study, it is the scientific study of the human mind and behaviour and we are all interested in ourselves! It is a scientific approach so will include elements of Maths and Biology as well as finding out more about the human and its workings.

What kind of student is this course suitable for?

This is a BTEC Extended Certificate so will be suitable to the kind of student who enjoys a mixture of exams and coursework assignments as the assessment structure. It is accepted by universities as an A Level equivalent, so if taken in conjunction with other Level 3 qualifications can lead to higher education.

The course will appeal to those students who:

- have an interest in human behaviour
- want to go beyond 'common sense' explanations
- enjoy finding out more about being a human
- enjoy a scientific approach, and
- are willing to think critically and evaluate theories and research

What will you study?

There are eight compulsory topics of study across the A Level course including:

- Social influence
- Memory
- Attachment
- Psychopathology
- Main Psychological approaches
- Mental disorders
- Research methods

Assessment

There are two external examinations that are mandatory and will cover the essential aspects of Psychology – such as the approaches and key thinkers in the subject. They will also look at research methods which will include an element of Maths and simply analysis. The assignments are more applied and look at putting into practice the theory that has been learnt for the exam. In total there are four assessment points, two are internal and two are external. These will all be finally submitted at the end of Year 13 but will need to be completed throughout the course.

Possible career path?

Employment opportunities exist in:

- Education
- Health
- Business
- Government
- Armed Forces
- Law Enforcement
- Prison Services

Psychology links at Higher Education:

In addition to going on to study Psychology at degree level some of the courses students may choose are Sociology, Law, Youth and Community work, Teaching, Sports Studies and Nursing.

Entry requirements

Ideally students will have five GCSEs Grade 9-5, including English and Maths.

Students can study **a maximum of two subjects** from Psychology, Sociology, Health and Social Care and Criminology.