



Extended Certificate in Applied Psychology

Key contact:

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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 for the kind of student who enjoys a mixture of exams and coursework assignments as the assessment structure. This qualification 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 considering more than one perspective
- enjoy a scientific approach, and
- are willing to think critically and evaluate theories and research

What will you study?

Within the Extended Certificate there are four units:

In Year 12 you will study:

- Psychological Approaches and Applications
- Conducting Psychological Research

In Year 13 you will study:

- Health Psychology
- Introduction to Psychopathology

Assessment

There are two external examinations that are mandatory and will cover essential aspects of Psychology – such as, the key approaches and how they apply to gender, aggression, consumer behaviour and health related behaviour. One exam will take place in the summer of Year 12, the other in the summer of Year 13.

The internally assessed assignments take the form of extended written reports which cover the process and principles of psychological research and the perception and treatment of mental disorders. Students will submit five assignments in total, three in Year 12 and two in Year 13. Students will be allowed one resubmission opportunity per assignment.

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

Students should have five GCSEs Grade 9-5, including English and Maths.