

# *Psychology*

**The scientific study of  
mind and behaviour**

**Ms Floros**



**CANNOCK CHASE HIGH SCHOOL**

A C H I E V E M E N T F O R A L L

# Psychology

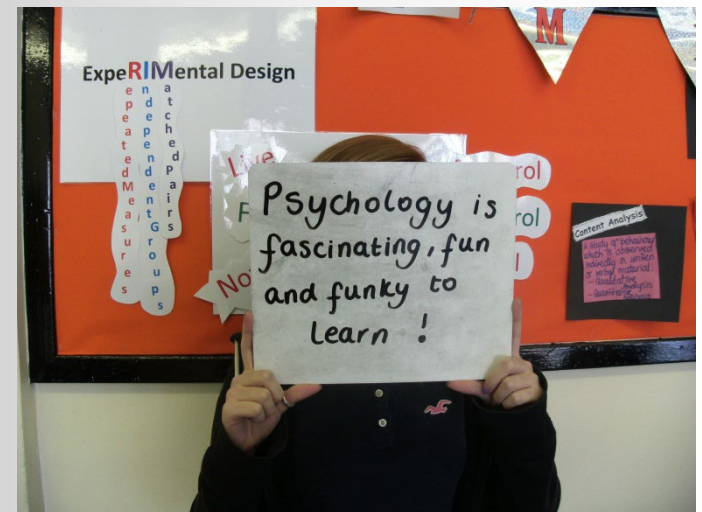
This course is designed for **all students**.

It is a **challenging and interesting** course that explores human behaviour

We make use of a **range of teaching methods** to cater for different styles of learning.

The course relies on your **ability to think critically, express your opinion, and maintain a balanced argument...** so there is lots of opportunity for discussion.

- Psychology is a popular subject because it has a **huge impact** on every aspect of our **lives**.
- Study of the **mind, brain and behaviour**
- Applying scientific methodology to explain behaviour.



# Overview of Content:

papers 1 and 2 (and no.8 in paper 3)

## A-Level

### Compulsory content

- 1 Social influence (conformity and obedience)
- 2 Memory (models of memory, EWT and the CI)
- 3 Attachment (theories, measurement, and effects of institutionalisation)
- 4 Psychopathology (definitions, approaches in explaining and treating OCD, phobias and depression)
- 5 Approaches in Psychology
- 6 Biopsychology (inc Biopsychology)
- 7 Research methods (at least 25–30% of the overall assessment will assess skills, knowledge and understanding in relation to research methods)
- 8 Issues and debates in psychology (Paper 3)

# Overview of Content: paper 3

## Option 1

9 Relationships/10 **Gender**/11 Cognition and development

Androgyny, and approaches in explaining where our sense of gender comes from

## Option 2

12 **Schizophrenia**/13 Eating behaviour/14 Stress

## Option 3

Classification, approaches in explaining and treating this disorder

15 Aggression/16 **Forensic psychology**/17  
Addiction

Defining crime, profiling, explanations, and dealing with crime

## Assessments

### Paper 1: Introductory topics in psychology

#### What's assessed

Compulsory content 1–4 above

#### Assessed

- written exam: 2 hours
- 96 marks in total
- 33.3% of A-level

#### Questions

- Section A: multiple choice, short answer and extended writing, 24 marks
- Section B: multiple choice, short answer and extended writing, 24 marks
- Section C: multiple choice, short answer and extended writing, 24 marks
- Section D: multiple choice, short answer and extended writing, 24 marks

### Paper 2: Psychology in context

#### What's assessed

Compulsory content 5–7 above

#### Assessed

- written exam: 2 hours
- 96 marks in total
- 33.3% of A-level

#### Questions

- Section A: multiple choice, short answer and extended writing, 24 marks
- Section B: multiple choice, short answer and extended writing, 24 marks
- Section C: multiple choice, short answer and extended writing, 48 marks

### Paper 3: Issues and options in psychology

#### What's assessed

Compulsory content 8 above

Optional content, one from option 1, 9–11, one from option 2, 12–14, one from option 3, 15–17 above

#### Assessed

- written exam: 2 hours
- 96 marks in total
- 33.3% of A-level

#### Questions

- Section A: multiple choice, short answer and extended writing, 24 marks
- Section B: one topic from option 1, 9–11 above, multiple choice, short answer and extended writing, 24 marks
- Section C: one topic from option 2, 12–14 above, multiple choice, short answer and extended writing, 24 marks
- Section D: one topic from option 3, 15–17 above, multiple choice, short answer and extended writing, 24 marks

# Psychology is a science

Given that psychology is considered to be a science it is crucial that those who take the subject are aware of its scientific nature. The specification covers aspects that build on knowledge from GCSE science and because of this students should have a **5 or above** in **GCSE** science.



# Psychology includes maths and statistics

- Embedded within this course is **maths**. For example, recognising and using expressions in decimal and standard form. Using ratios, fractions and percentages. Estimating results. Use of an appropriate number of significant figures. Finding arithmetic means. For example, calculating the means for two conditions using raw data from a class experiment. Constructing and interpreting frequency tables and diagrams, bar charts and histograms etc...
- These skills will be applied in the context of A-level Psychology and will be at least the standard of **higher tier GCSE mathematics**.



# Y13 Statistics

- In Y13, we go on to understand simple probability. For example, explaining the difference between the 0.05 and 0.01 levels of significance.
- Select an appropriate statistical test. For example, selecting a suitable inferential test for a given practical investigation and explaining why the chosen test is appropriate. Use statistical tables to determine significance.
- Maths makes up at least 10% of the marks in the papers.

# Psychology and English

- There are a variety of question types in the papers ranging from 1 mark multiple choice up to 16 mark essays of approximately 450 words.
- In order to gain higher grades in psychology, students should be able to construct coherent essays, using good English and appropriate terminology.



**C**ommunication

**O**rganisation

(folders, materials, time management, meeting deadlines)

**P**unctuality and attendance

**P**rivate study (minimum five hours per week)

**E**ffort

# Future Careers...

As well as **careers** within areas of psychology such as sport, clinical and forensic psychology; psychology qualifications open doors to careers in disciplines such as:

- Health and social care
- Marketing and PR
- Management
- Education
- Public sector work

We do our best to...

Make sure work is understandable

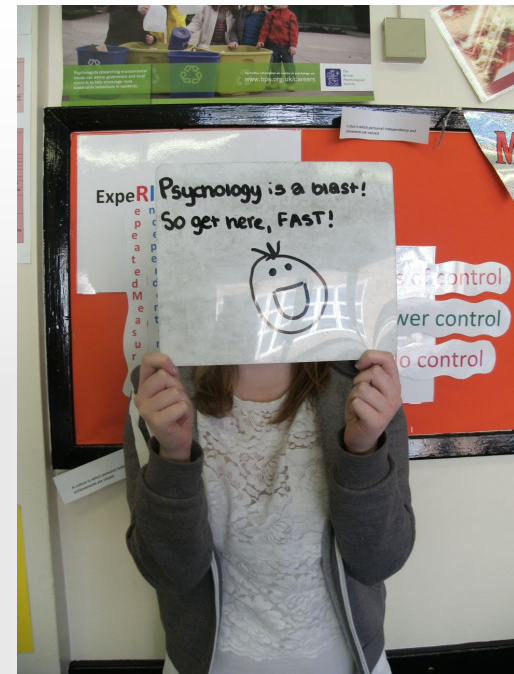
Provide feedback on assignments  
explaining how to improve

Ensure feedback is given regularly

Ensure lessons are varied and  
interesting



# Questions?



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