

## The Course

The AQA specification consists of three units:

**Unit 1: Introductory topics in Psychology such as abnormality and memory**

**Unit 2: Psychology in context, such as biopsychology and research methods**

**Unit 3: Topics in Psychology such as schizophrenia, aggression and relationships**

There is also quite a lot of content - students will need to work hard from the beginning of the course to internalise the necessary detail of the subject matter to be covered.



## Why study Psychology?

- Psychology is the scientific study of the human mind and behaviour. It is a demanding academic subject that will rapidly improve your ability to think critically, analyse and utilise research data, and construct effective arguments.
- It is counted as a Science by most universities and an 'academic' A Level, though there are a few exceptions.
- The content is highly relevant to you and your understanding of society.
- It is fascinating and fun.
- Many careers utilise Psychology, from Management Consultancy to Medicine, and it has high employability rates.
- It provides academic input into many other studies, such as History, Biology and English.
- The mapping of the human genome and its interaction with the environment gives extra fuel to many of the debates concerning human behaviour. Psychology is an evolving science and is a particularly vibrant and relevant subject at this time in our history.

## What do I need to study Psychology?

A minimum Grade 6 in GCSE English Literature or Language is required, and a Grade 7 is strongly recommended.

The Psychology A Level is predominantly an essay-based exam. Students need to be able to write proficiently, answer extended discussion questions, grapple with research methods and analyse unseen material under exams conditions.

It is also important to note that Psychology is the scientific study of the brain and behaviour and not primarily focused on counselling or therapy.

A Level subject choice video can be found here: <https://youtu.be/RTutms0oI-0>