

Psychology (AQA Specification 7182)

As a thriving 6th form subject Psychology is relevant to all areas of life. Essentially it is the scientific study of the human mind and behaviour, encompassing the key elements such as hypothesis testing but also allows a deeper level of philosophical debate, such as questioning whether humans ever actually have free will! Diversity is fundamental, including investigations of social interactions, unconscious forces in psychoanalysis, through to the inner workings of the brain.

Psychology is an accessible and inherently interesting subject which is challenging and promotes discussions within the course such as ‘is deceit ever justifiable?’ or ‘how reliable is the diagnosis of mental illness?’

The transferable skills gained from studying psychology are excellent preparation for university and work as the topics encourage topical debate; for example the effect of psychology on the economy, ethical considerations of research and real life application to the treatment of mental health.

A benefit of Psychology A level is that it works alongside any other subjects, those more science focused have an opportunity to develop their critical writing skills, whereas those with a more arts based focus can still gain a scientific qualification but explore their flexibility of thinking through analysis of psychological concepts.

For more information on the specific topics studied within the A level course, please visit [Psychology \(shsk.org.uk\)](http://shsk.org.uk)

Please access AQA website for full details:

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/psychology/as-and-a-level/psychology-7181-7182>

Other relevant website: www.bps.org.uk.