

## Subject Information

### Subject: Psychology

#### Course content and assessment schedule:

| Paper   | Duration                     | Season when first taken | Brief outline of main content.   |
|---------|------------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| 1<br>AS | <b>1 hour<br/>30 minutes</b> | January<br>Yr 13        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The way in which human <b>memory</b> works.</li> <li><b>Early childhood</b> development.</li> <li>How <b>research</b> is carried out in psychology.</li> </ul>  |
| 2<br>AS | <b>1 hour<br/>30 minutes</b> | June<br>Yr 13           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The individual's physical and mental response to <b>stress</b>.</li> <li>Why do people <b>conform, obey and act independently?</b></li> <li>Biological and psychological explanations of <b>abnormal</b> human behaviour.</li> </ul>  |
| 3<br>A2 | <b>1 hour<br/>30 minutes</b> | June<br>Yr 14           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Relationships:</b> The formation, maintenance and breakdown of Romantic Relationships. Human Reproductive Behaviour. Effects of early experience and culture on adult relationships.</li> <li><b>Gender:</b> Psychological explanations of gender development. Biological influences on gender. Social contexts of gender role</li> <li><b>Cognitive Development:</b> Development of Thinking. Development of moral understanding. Development of social cognition.</li> </ul> |
| 4<br>A2 | <b>2 hours</b>               | Jan<br>Yr 14            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Depression:</b> Classification and clinical characteristics. Explanations of depression. Therapies for depression.</li> <li><b>Media influences</b> on social behaviour, persuasion, attitude and change. The psychology of <b>"celebrity"</b></li> <li>The <b>application</b> of scientific methods in Psychology</li> </ul>  |

#### Entry requirements:

| Compulsory GCSE subjects | Grade    | Desirable subjects | Grade    |
|--------------------------|----------|--------------------|----------|
| English Language         | <b>A</b> | Biology            | <b>B</b> |
| English Literature       | <b>B</b> |                    |          |
| Mathematics              | <b>C</b> |                    |          |

#### Qualities / skills needed to succeed in the course

The examination will require students to write short 3-12 mark summary answers to stimulus questions on each unit paper **at AS Level**.

**At A2 Level** students will be required to write longer essay-type answers [25 marks].

**There is no coursework requirement in the new syllabus.**

This subject is based on an interest in what makes people "tick"[for example part of the new A2 course deals with the psychology of "celebrity"] and this intellectual curiosity is essential if Psychology is to be of interest to you.

Those who enjoy discussing and debating topics such as Love, why "celebrities" behave as they do, why people develop depression and the role of the unconscious mind in human behaviour, will be fully engaged with this subject.