PSYCHOLOGY

"We are what we are because we have been what we have been, and what is needed for solving the problems of human life and motives is not moral estimates but more knowledge"

Sigmund Freud

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Exam Board:

AQA

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The Ferrers Sixth Form

Why study psychology?

Ever wondered if prison really does change criminal behaviour? Or why some people conform? Or perhaps if the experiences you had before the age of five really do shape the person you are today? If so, psychology might be the course for you. As a student of psychology, you will learn a variety of skills including analytical thinking, improved communication, critical refection and problem solving.

What will you study?

Year 12

Throughout Year 12 you will explore the compulsory introductory topics: Social Influence (why do people conform), Memory (understanding memory, including forgetting), Attachment (and its impact on both childhood and adult relationship) and Psychopathology (abnormality, disorders and deviation from social norms). You will develop a deep understanding of research methods in psychology and the ethical issues involved in psychological research. You will explore different approaches to psychology, including Freud's Psychodynamic approach and the biological approach, whilst learning about the various issues and debates in psychology.

Year 13

During Year 13 you will explore the biological bases of behaviour as well as how to use inferential statistics to determine the significance of outcomes. In this year, we will be considering optional topics also, which include Schizophrenia, Gender and Aggression.

How will you study?

This course will be taught using a highly focused and independent method of blended learning, developing students' skills to prepare for their learning in advance of lessons, so that the learning approach can be more engaging, with a focus on embedding understanding and applying ideas.

How will you be assessed?

Throughout the two years there will be termly assessments and examinations. The three assessments will take place at the end of Year 13.
Paper 1: Introductory Topics in Psychology
Paper 2: Psychology in Context
Paper 3: Issues and Options in Psychology.
These assessments test all areas of the taught course.

What do I need to study the course?

Entry requirements: You will need an APS of 4.5+, with at least a 4 in maths and 5 in English.
Skills and attributes: The study of psychology requires the key skill of organisation, analysis and independence.

Which subjects combine well with psychology?

Media, English langauge and literature, history, drama, biology, sport.