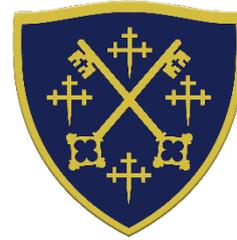


# A Level: Psychology

Specification: AQA



**BISHOP  
STOPFORD  
SCHOOL**  
**Sixth Form**  
faith | justice | responsibility | truth | compassion

You probably know very little about the organ that governs your every perception and sensation, thought and behaviour. Choosing Psychology will help you address this: Psychology is the science of the mind. Although we can't observe the mind directly, everything we do, think, feel and say is determined by its functioning. So, psychologists take human behaviour as the raw data for testing their theories about how the mind works.

## Subject Content

In Psychology you'll investigate and evaluate research on new areas of learning including memory, abnormality and childhood, as well as disorders of various kinds. As Psychology is a Social Science, you'll also develop and apply your knowledge of the methods required for investigations, and in A level will write analytical essays.

### **Some of the areas covered in Year 1 include:**

- The way in which psychological investigations are carried out
- Memory processes and memory improvement
- Attachment relationships between young children and parents
- Obedience to authority and conformity
- Explaining and Treating Mental Health disorders
- Differing psychological Approaches to explaining behaviour

### **Areas covered in Year 2 of the A Level course include:**

- Biopsychology
- Relationships
- Addictions
- Schizophrenia
- Understanding and practice of scientific methods
- The debates surrounding the causes of human behaviour  
E.g. Nature? Or Nurture? A result of Free Will? Or Determined?

### **Skills:**

Using scientific method to carry out investigations  
Analysis and evaluation of research  
Application of research to theory

## Exam Assessment

<b>Psychology A-level Overview</b>		
<b>Paper 1: Introductory Topics in Psychology</b>	<b>Paper 2: Psychology in Context</b>	<b>Paper 3: Issues and Options in Psychology</b>
A: Social Influence  B: Attachments  C: Memory  D: Clinical Psychology & Mental Health	A: Biopsychology  B: Approaches in Psychology  C: Research Methods	A: issues and Debates  B: Relationships  C: Schizophrenia  D: Addictions
<b>(including embedded Research Methods and Maths for Psychology)</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>2 hour written exam</b></li> <li>96 marks in total</li> <li>33.3% of A-level</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>2 hour written exam</b></li> <li>96 marks in total</li> <li>33.3% of A-level</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>2 hour written exam</b></li> <li>96 marks in total</li> <li>33.3% of A-level</li> </ul>
<b>*Research Methods and Maths make up 33% of marks across the papers</b>		
<b>Sections A, B, C, D</b> each worth <b>24 marks</b> and include multiple choice, short answer and extended writing (up to 16 marks)	<b>Sections A and B</b> each worth <b>24 marks</b> and include multiple choice, short answer and extended writing (up to 16 marks)  <b>Section C</b> worth <b>48 marks</b> and includes multiple choice, short answer and extended writing (up to 12 marks 'plan an investigation')	<b>Sections A, B, C, D</b> each worth <b>24 marks</b> and include multiple choice, short answer and extended writing (up to 16 marks)
<b>The Assessment Objectives:</b>  <b>*AO1: <i>Demonstrate knowledge and understanding</i> of scientific ideas, processes, techniques and procedures</b>  <b>*AO2: <i>Apply knowledge and understanding</i> of scientific ideas, processes, techniques and procedures: in a theoretical context, in a practical context, when handling qualitative data, when handling quantitative data.</b>  <b>*AO3: <i>Analyse, interpret and evaluate</i> scientific information, ideas and evidence, including in relation to issues, to make judgements and reach conclusions, and to develop and refine practical design and procedures</b>		

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