

# Psychology

## A Level

Exam Board: **AQA**



**ST. MARY MAGDALENE**

C OF E SIXTH FORM  
PENINSULA CAMPUS

*Excellence through innovation,  
founded in faith since 1840.*

### What is Psychology?

Psychology can be described as a scientific approach to understanding the mind and human behaviour. The subject requires the close analysis and evaluation of a range of complex psychological theories and studies. Over your two years studying A Level Psychology you will gain an insight into the causes of a wide variety of human behaviours, their impact on daily lives and the science that has evolved around them.

### What Will I Study?

#### **Paper 1 – Introductory Topics in Psychology:**

- Social influence
- Memory
- Attachment
- Psychopathology

#### **Paper 2 – Psychology in Context:**

- Approaches in Psychology
- Biopsychology
- Research methods

#### **Paper 3 – Issues and Options in Psychology:**

- Issues and debates in Psychology
- Relationships
- Schizophrenia
- Forensic Psychology

### What entry requirements will I need?

In addition to the general entry requirements you will need a grade 6 in Maths and in a Science subject (preferably Biology).

### How will I be taught?

Students will learn through a variety of methods including practical investigations, discussion and group work. Students will be expected to carry out reading and note-taking in order to consolidate and extend lesson content outside of their timetabled lesson time.

### How will I be assessed?

**Paper 1:** 2 hour written paper (worth 33.3% of the A Level)

**Paper 2:** 2 hour written paper (worth 33.3% of the A Level)

**Paper 3:** 2 hour written paper (worth 33.3% of the A Level)

### What career opportunities does this open up?

Psychology can be useful to almost any career but particularly those involving working directly with people. A Psychology Undergraduate degree plus further postgraduate study could lead to work as a Psychologist, for instance in a clinical or educational setting.

For more information see the British Psychological Society website: [www.bps.org.uk](http://www.bps.org.uk)