

PSYCHOLOGY

Exam board	AQA (A)
Entry requirements	Students are required to have achieved a B grade or above in one GCSE science subject, a B grade or above in a GCSE humanities subject and a C grade or above in GCSE English.
Units of study and topics covered	<p>Paper 1: Social influence, Memory, Attachment (child development) and Psychopathology (abnormal behaviour)</p> <p>Paper 2: Approaches in Psychology. Biopsychology and Research methods</p> <p>Paper 3: Issues and debates in Psychology, Relationships, Schizophrenia and Forensic Psychology</p>
Forms of assessment used	<p>The course is 100% exam based.</p> <p>The three papers encompass a balanced style of exam questions including multiple choice questions, short answer questions and essays.</p>
Key skills for success	The course will require students to undertake scientific research and conduct extended reading. Literacy skills are essential as is a good understanding of science.
Expectations	Students should be well motivated, have an inquiring mind, and be prepared to analyse and challenge explanations of human behaviour. They should also be able to discuss case studies, debate explanations of abnormal behaviour and prepare presentations on existing research.
Good subject combinations	Sociology, Biology, English literature/Language, History, RE and Health and Social Care are all complimentary to this subject.
Potential pathways post sixth form:	Psychology students learn an array of transferable skills on the course to prepare them for a variety of pathways. Our students often go on to university to study a variety of degrees in this field e.g. criminology, social work, teaching, neuropsychology and business related degrees. Many continue to develop their knowledge and opt for a Psychology degree. A minority of students have gone straight into employment to secure HR related jobs.
Where students can find out more	<p>Contact the Subject Leader for Psychology on Haseena.Manji@thomasdeaconacademy.com</p> <p>Information on the specification can be found at www.aqa.org.uk</p>