

# GCSE Psychology



ALSOP HIGH SCHOOL

## AIM:

Psychology is the scientific study of the mind and how it dictates and influences our behaviour, from communication and memory to thought and emotion. Psychologists observe and conduct experiments to find out more about what makes people tick, and how this understanding can help us address many of the problems and issues in society today.

This course allows you to acquire knowledge and understanding of psychology, developing an understanding of self and others, and how psychological understanding can help to explain everyday social phenomena. Also, develop an understanding of psychological issues, the contribution of psychology to individual, social and cultural diversity, and how psychology contributes to society.

## Where will it take you?

With a GCSE in Psychology you could go on to study Applied Psychology in Sixth Form and then at Degree Level. Psychology is useful for any job that requires lots of interaction or an understanding of human behaviour and development. People with skills in psychology are sought after in business, management, teaching, research, social work and careers in medicine and healthcare.

You could become a psychologist in the following areas: sports, education, clinical and counselling, forensic, occupational or neuropsychology.

## What will you learn?

- Topic 1: Development – How did you develop?
- Topic 2: Memory – How does your memory work?
- Topic 3: Psychological problems – How would psychological problems affect you?
- Topic 4: The brain and neuropsychology – How does your brain affect you?
- Topic 5: Social influence – How do others affect you?
- Topic 6: Criminal psychology – Why do people become criminals?
- Topic 7: Sleep and dreaming – Why do you need to sleep and dream?
- Topic 8: Research methods – How do you carry out psychological research?

## **How will you learn?**

You will learn through a variety of different activities in the classroom with opportunities to carry out research, study theories and studies, work in groups and have exam practice. We deliver a mixture of topic areas that students can relate to and are interested in, and we guide students into developing and expanding their own thoughts and ideas.

## **What skills will you need to be successful in this subject?**

To be successful in GCSE Psychology you need to have a good grasp of maths skills and have good English skills. You will also need to argue from different perspectives and participate in discussions and debate. A good memory is also useful as there are a lot of facts to recall.

## **What homework can you expect?**

You will be set weekly Knowledge Organiser homework based on your work in lessons to help you retain knowledge and content throughout your studies. There will also be project-based research and exam question practice.

## **Is this course for me?**

Psychology is an excellent choice for anyone who wishes to further their understanding of the scientific study of the mind and how it dictates and influences our behaviour, and for students who have an interest in developing an understanding of self and others.

**For further information please see Miss Williams**