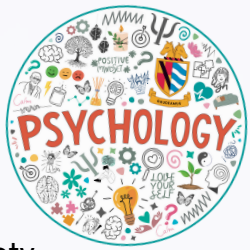
GCSE Psychology



This is the subject for you if you want to develop:

- An understanding of why people behave the way they do
- An ability to think scientifically
- Knowledge of what psychologists do and how they support society
- A comprehension of the treatments & therapies used to help people

What do I need to know or be able to do before taking this course?

This will be a new subject for you, so you will not need any prior knowledge of Psychology. Psychology is the science of mind and behaviour, and through scientific research, you will understand why individuals and groups behave as they do. A word of advice: Psychology is a science, and achieving a good level of science by the end of Year 9 is strongly recommended. This GCSE will include a significant maths component (10%), so you must also be a competent mathematician.

What will I learn?

You will be looking at answers to the following topics:

- **Development -** How did you develop in terms of intelligence and morality?
- **Memory -** How does your memory work?
- **Psychological Problems -** How would psychological problems affect you?
- **The Brain and Neuropsychology -** How does your brain affect you?
- **Social Influence -** How do others affect you?
- **Criminal Psychology -** Why do people become criminals?
- **Sleep and Dreaming -** Why do you need to sleep and dream?
- **Research Methods -** How do you conduct psychological research?

How will I be assessed?

There are two exams in the summer of the second year, which include:-

- some multiple-choice questions,
- some short-answer questions and
- some extended writing

You will be required to apply your knowledge of psychology by suggesting enhancements to research studies or contrasting two distinct explanations of aggression. Please note that there is no coursework involved.