

Psychology at Norbury High

Key Stage 5

This A level qualification offers an engaging and effective introduction to psychology which will appeal to a cross-section of students regardless of whether they have studied psychology before. Students will sit AQA A Level Psychology at the end of Year 13. There are three 2 hour exams in total that students will complete.

The course starts by looking into the reasons why individuals conform and/or obey using classic studies such as Asch *et al*, and Milgram *et al*,. The core topic of research methods is introduced early on and this can be applied to all other topics on the course. All the topics are broadly independent of each other however the stronger a student's understanding of each topic and area the more likely they are to develop a deeper appreciation of the subject and be able to consider issues more widely. The topic of memory also informs students about how best to utilise their own memories in order to maximise their potential throughout their academic studies. The nature and purpose of memory provides a foundation for students to consider the scientific approach as this topic is studied through a cognitive approach to human behaviour.

Year 12

1. **Social Influence:** conformity, obedience, majority and minority influence
2. **Research Methods:** psychological methodology, ethics & statistical analysis
3. **Memory:** short-term memory, working memory and forgetting
4. **Attachment:** parental relationships, deprivation & privation
5. **Clinical Psychology & Mental Health:** phobias, depression & OCD
6. **Approaches:** biological, behavioural, social learning, cognitive, psychodynamic and humanistic approaches
7. **Biopsychology:** localisation of function, hemispheric lateralisation and synaptic function and the nervous system

Year 13

1. **Research Methods:** inferential statistics
2. **Issues and Debates:** gender and culture biases, free will vs determinism, reductionism, ideographic vs. nomothetic approaches

Optional subjects:

3. **Schizophrenia:** symptoms, causes, treatments
4. **Relationships:** formation and dissolution
5. **Aggression:** types, causes and effects