

# Psychology

Examination Board: AQA (7182)

GCSE Required: English Language Grade 5  
Skills: Interest in human  
behaviour

Further details can be found by scanning this QR code:



Or visit <http://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/psychology/specifications/AQA-7181-7182-SP-2015.PDF>

**What is covered in the course:**

## Paper 1

'**Psychopathology**' explores what is considered to be abnormal and explains the causes and treatments of behaviours such as phobias, depression and OCD.

'**Social Influence**' considers why people conform and obey others and how society can change its viewpoint.

'**Memory**' will examine theory and research into how memory works and why we forget. You will also inspect how memory is used in everyday life, for example in eyewitness testimony.

'**Attachment**' investigates how children develop attachments with others and the effects of deprivation and separation from carers. You will also assess the importance of early attachment on later relationships.

## Paper 2

'**Approaches in psychology**' examines the origins of psychology as well as the assumptions, applications and evaluations of the: learning approaches; cognitive approach; biological approach; psychodynamic approach; humanistic approach.

'**Biopsychology**' investigates the biological aspects to human behaviour by studying systems such as the nervous system, endocrine system and the various functions of the brain.

'**Research Methods**' looks at the techniques used to design and conduct psychological experiments. You will also look at how data from experiments is analysed.

## Paper 3

**Compulsory content:**

'**Issues and debates in psychology**' will explore the arguments that surround issues such as gender and culture in psychology, the free will vs determinism debate, the nature vs nurture debate, holism vs reductionism and ethics.

**Optional content:**

You will study 3 topics, one from each of the numbered bands below:

1. Relationships; gender; cognition and development
2. Aggression; forensic psychology; addiction

### 3. Eating behaviour; stress; schizophrenia

#### **How will the subject be taught:**

The subject is taught through lectures, group-work, practical projects, research, discussions, presentations and role-play. As you study psychology you will begin to understand the factors that affect your behaviour, you will learn about yourself and why you do the things you do. It can teach you about the ways people interact in social situations and give you a better understanding of your own feelings and attitudes. You will also learn techniques that may help you study more effectively.

#### **What opportunities come with this subject:**

Psychology is an integral part of many jobs. The study of psychology provides relevant training for further study or work in: social work; advertising, personnel management; business; nursing; sales; the police force; career guidance; market research - in other words any job that involves interacting with people. For this reason, advanced level psychology is considered valuable by most university courses. Moreover, psychology is classified as a science; hence, most universities count it as such in their entry requirements.

#### **Higher Education/Career Implications:**

To become a Chartered Psychologist you need to gain a Psychology degree and follow further professional study. Areas of employment then include: Clinical Psychologist; Educational Psychologist; Forensic Psychologist; Psychotherapy; Occupational Psychology and applied research.