



Bideford College

Part of the Athena Learning Trust

Psychology

**Subject Information
For admissions in September**

A Level Psychology

Exam Board: AQA

Qualification Title: A-Level Psychology (7182)

Specification Link:

www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/psychology/as-and-a-level/psychology-7181-7182

Unit Titles

Unit 1 Introductory topics in psychology:

Social Influence - Why do people conform and obey or not? - Asch, Zimbardo and Milgram

Memory – How does it work? Why do we forget? How accurate is eye witness testimony?

Attachment - How do the attachments you form as a child influence your adult relationships?

Psychopathology – Abnormal behaviour; definitions, explanations and treatments.

Unit 2 Psychology in Context

Approaches - Do you prefer the behaviourist, social learning, cognitive, biological, psychodynamic or humanistic approach to explaining why humans behave the way that they do?

Biopsychology - How does the nervous system, the endocrine system and the brain affect behaviour?

Research methods - How do psychologists use scientific methods to investigate human behaviour?

Unit 3 Issues & Options in Psychology

Issues and Debates in psychology - What influences your behaviour more; nature, nurture, gender, culture? Gender - What determines your gender? Biological, psychological and social explanations for the development of gender and atypical gender. Schizophrenia - How can schizophrenia be diagnosed accurately and treated effectively? Aggression – What causes human aggression; our genes or our environment?

Possible Progression Routes:

A level psychology is an excellent introduction to psychology for students interested in studying it at University. Psychology is useful for nursing, teaching, science related degrees or careers in the health related professions. It is also useful for students wishing to study sociology, criminology or forensic science degrees.

Equipment Required:

Electronic textbooks are available for all students so internet access at home is useful or you may wish to purchase a hard copy of the text books. You may also wish to purchase revision text books. Please contact staff for details of publications relevant to the current A level specification.

Other Relevant Information:

Psychology links well with Biology, Applied science, Geography, History and English language and English literature. The course covers contemporary topics and approaches in psychology, the scientific process of explaining human behaviour, research methods used in psychological investigations and explores current issues and debates within psychology. Unit 1 and most of Unit 2 is studied in Year 12. The rest of Unit 2 and Unit 3 are studied in Year 13. There are 3 exams at the end of Year 13 for the A level qualification – the A level exams cover everything taught over 2 years in Unit 1, 2 and 3.

Entry Requirements:

Students who wish to study this course are required to achieve a minimum of grade 6 in GCSE English (preferably in literature), GCSE grade 5 or above in GCSE Science and a GCSE grade 4 in Maths..

Subject Contact:

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How to apply?

To apply to Bideford College Sixth Form please complete our online application form:

<https://www.bidefordcollege.uk/sixth-form>

Our admissions team will then be in contact to arrange a Sixth Form interview to discuss your options, your aspirations, and to provide advice and guidance on your next steps.

If you cannot access the website, or would like to submit a paper based application please email or call.

kgilbey@bidefordcollege.uk
01237 477611

Further details about all of the courses we offer can be found on our website.