



# Psychology

## 1. Expectations for success are:

- **Motivation and desire** to learn Psychology and to achieve, if not exceed, their minimum expected grade.
- **Outstanding** attendance and punctuality to lesson. If any lessons are not attended it is expected that **all work missed will be completed before the next lesson.**
- **Resilience** when learning new topics and ideas
- Outstanding organisation of class work and homework
- **Openness** to the opinions of others and an interest into the reasoning which underpin the opinions.
- A **readiness** to tackle the new vocabulary
- **Dedication** when completing wider reading and independent work around the topic.
- Demonstrate sound knowledge and understanding of psychological concepts, theories and studies in relation to Cognitive, Developmental, Biological, Social and Abnormal Psychology.
- Develop skills of analysis, evaluation and application.
- A knowledge and understanding of ethical issues and research methods.
- Develop effective essay writing skills through the completion of practice examination questions.
- Complete a practical research project and regular timed assessments

## 2. The characteristics of an outstanding student in this subject are:

- Determined
- Dedicated
- Enthusiastic
- Aiming high
- Resilient in the face of setbacks and determination to find ways to solve problems – for example when the don't understand a view point
- Open-mindedness
- Respectful
- Accepting responsibility for their own grade and work
- Enquiring mind
- Independent learner
- Analytic approach to the views
- Well organised
- Good essay writing skills

## 3. Wider reading list

### Textbooks

Cardwell, M & Flanagan, C. (2015). *Psychology A Level Year 1 and AS: The Complete Companion Student Book*. Oxford University Press.

Flanagan, C., Berry, D., Jarvis, M. & Liddle, R. (2015). *AQA Psychology for A level-Year 1 & AS*. Illuminate Publishing.

Flanagan, C. (in print). *The Research Methods Companion for A Level Psychology Second Edition*. Oxford University Press.

### **Periodicals – available in the school library and on Moodle**

- Psychology Review – (any article) available in the Library
- Google scholar – wider research

### **Interesting novels that link to areas of the course include:**

- An Intellectual History of Psychology – Daniel Robinson
- The Lucifer Effect – Philip Zimbardo
- The Social Animal – Elliot Aronson
- One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest – Ken Kesey
- The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat- Oliver Sachs
- Without Conscience: The Disturbing World of the Psychopaths Among Us – Robert Hare
- The Myth of Mental Illness- Thomas Szasz

### **Useful Websites:**

- [www.bbc.co.uk](http://www.bbc.co.uk) – this can be a complicated site but once mastered it will keep you up to date with issues and events worldwide.
- [www.aqa.org.uk](http://www.aqa.org.uk) – this essential site has downloadable past papers and mark schemes for this course. It is used extensively throughout the course.
- <https://wilmington.rmunify.com/> - WG6 learning platform, where all lesson resources will be shared. Articles you require for homework can be accessed here.
- <http://www.apa.org/> - the official site for the American Psychological Association, there are many current topics discussed here and links to the most current research being conducted in the U.S.
- <http://www.bps.org.uk/> - the official site for the British Psychological Society. Students interested in studying Psychology at university or a career in Psychology/Psychiatry should register with the organisation, the site contains all information relevant to the field of Psychology in Britain.
- [www.simplypsychology.org](http://www.simplypsychology.org) – Excellent to use for revision and for concise summaries on topics.

### **4. Independent Study ideas**

- Using the Psychological Review write a report on an article of your choice.
- Internet research
- Research and production of a presentation
- Use of a variety of media to discuss current issues in the news.
- Preparation of material to discuss in the next lesson.
- Prepare a summary of an article to feedback to the group as a whole.
- Complete exam papers under timed conditions and use the mark schemes to self-assess performance (available on the AQA website)
- Study groups (learning from others is a great way to revise and consolidate knowledge).
- Creating revision resources
- Designing, carrying out and writing up your own research