

Tarporley Sixth Form College



Psychology A-Level Programme of Study

Exam Board: **AQA**

100% Examination

(**3 Exams**

33.3% per exam)

Y12 Topics Paper 1	Y12 + Y13 Topics Paper 2	Y13 Topics Paper 3
Social Influence	Approaches	Issues and Debates
Memory	Biopsychology	Relationships
Attachment	Research Methods	Schizophrenia
Clinical Psychology and Mental Health		Forensic Psychology

Name:

Target grade:

Aspirational grade:



Overview of Key Topics during the Course:

Paper 1	Social Influence 	Types of conformity, explanations for conformity and obedience, explanations of resistance to social influence and minority influence.	Recommended Reading: AQA Psychology Green Haired Girl 2 nd or 3 rd edition AQA A-level Psychology Book 1-Lawton & Willard.
Paper 1	Memory 	Types of memory, explanations for forgetting, factors affecting eye-witness testimonies.	Recommended Reading: AQA Psychology Green Haired Girl 2 nd or 3 rd edition AQA A-level Psychology Book 1-Lawton & Willard.
Paper 1	Attachment 	Explanations for attachment, the influence of early attachment on childhood and adult relationships.	Recommended Reading: AQA Psychology Green Haired Girl 2 nd or 3 rd edition AQA A-level Psychology Book 1-Lawton & Willard.
Paper 1	Clinical Psychology and Mental Health 	Definitions of mental health and a discussion of phobias, depression and obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD).	Recommended Reading: AQA Psychology Green Haired Girl 2 nd or 3 rd edition AQA A-level Psychology Book 1-Lawton & Willard.
Paper 2	Approaches 	The basic assumptions of the social learning theory, behaviourist, biological, psychodynamic, cognitive and humanistic approaches.	Recommended Reading: AQA Psychology Green Haired Girl 2 nd or 3 rd edition AQA Psychology Pinked Haired Girl 2 nd or 3 rd edition AQA A-level Psychology Book 1-Lawton & Willard. AQA A-level Psychology Book 2-Lawton & Willard.
Paper 2	Biopsychology 	Discussion of the nervous system, endocrine system, the brain and its functions and how we measure this.	Recommended Reading: AQA Psychology Green Haired Girl 2 nd or 3 rd edition AQA Psychology Pinked Haired Girl 2 nd or 3 rd edition AQA A-level Psychology Book 1-Lawton & Willard. AQA A-level Psychology Book 2-Lawton & Willard.
Paper 2	Research Methods 	Knowledge and understanding of the several research methods, scientific processes and techniques of data handling and analysis, as well as their use and be aware of their strengths and limitations:	Recommended Reading: AQA Psychology Green Haired Girl 2 nd or 3 rd edition AQA Psychology Pinked Haired Girl 2 nd or 3 rd edition AQA A-level Psychology Book 1-Lawton & Willard. AQA A-level Psychology Book 2-Lawton & Willard.
Paper 2	Issues and Debates 	Discussion and evaluation of: Gender and Culture, Free will and Determinism, Nature versus Nurture Holism and Reductionism, Idiographic and Nomothetic,	Recommended Reading: AQA Psychology Pinked Haired Girl 2 nd or 3 rd edition AQA A-level Psychology Book 2-Lawton & Willard.



		Ethical implications of research studies.	
Paper 3	Relationships 	Theories behind relationship formation, including virtual and para social relationships	Recommended Reading: AQA Psychology Pinked Haired Girl 2 nd or 3 rd edition AQA A-level Psychology Book 2-Lawton & Willard.
Paper 3	Schizophrenia 	Classification, therapies and explanations for schizophrenia.	Recommended Reading: AQA Psychology Pinked Haired Girl 2 nd or 3 rd edition AQA A-level Psychology Book 2-Lawton & Willard.
Paper 3	Forensic Psychology 	Offender profiling, explanations for offending and dealing with offending behaviour.	Recommended Reading: AQA Psychology Pinked Haired Girl 2 nd or 3 rd edition AQA A-level Psychology Book 2-Lawton & Willard.

How your course is structured:

Year 12: Miss Greatbanks	Y13: Miss Greatbanks
• Introduction to Psychology and Specification • Paper 2: Approaches • Paper 2: Research Methods • Paper 1: Social Influence • Paper 1: Attachment   Assessment 1: Approaches Assessment 2: Social influence Assessment 3: Attachment	• Paper 2: Biopsychology (finish) • Paper 3: Issues and debates • Paper 3: Forensic Psychology  Assessment 1: Biopsychology Assessment 2: Issues and debates Assessment 3: Forensic Psychology
Christmas	Holidays
• Paper 1: Memory • Paper 2- Research Methods • Assessment 4: Research Methods Assessment 5: Memory 	Mocks Y13 • Paper 3: Schizophrenia • Paper 3: Relationships Assessment 4: Schizophrenia Assessment 5: Relationships 
Easter	Holidays
• Paper 1: Psychopathology • Paper 2: Rest of Research Methods Assessment 6-Psychopathology  End of Year Mock Exams • Paper 2: Biopsychology (first part)	Paper 1,2,3: Revision Assessment: A-Level Exams 
Summer	Holidays

Your Assessment Objectives:

AO1 Knowledge- Fact and Theories	Knowledge and understanding – how much you know and understand about scientific ideas, processes, techniques and procedures (including approaches, studies and research methods/designs).
AO2 Application and Knowledge	Apply knowledge and understanding of scientific ideas, processes, techniques and procedures: in a theoretical context in a practical context when handling qualitative data when handling quantitative data
AO3 Evaluation	Analysis, interpretation and evaluation – Breaking down an argument or explanation, comparing and contrasting ideas to show similarities or differences (application). Looking at evidence for and against a viewpoint, putting forward alternative views to create a debate (evaluation). Making judgements and reaching conclusions. Developing and refining practical design and procedures.

Top Study Tips:

Any issues: Lgreatbanks@tarporleyhigh.co.uk

Have three Lever Arch Folders – one for each paper

Use file divides to organise each topic. File your notes carefully each week – remember to date classwork so you remember the sequence of each lesson. This will make revision easier.

Use your Booklets to make cue cards/mind-maps. Complete past exam questions using the AQA website.

Revision tool-brain splurge. Write down everything you currently remember about a topic then add to it using your notes (in a different colour pen). This way you will clearly see where the gaps are in your knowledge. Repeat it and next time hopefully you will have added more information. This is a great way to consolidate your knowledge, commit things to memory and make your knowledge deeper.

Keep revisiting work and topics

Don't simply file away and forget. Routinely to go over last term / year's work.

Read around and be excited about your subject! Use my recommendations. Use the library or borrow books from us.