



PSYCHOLOGY

Course Information

Psychology is the scientific study of mind and behaviour and is the most popular subject here at Newent. Psychology is a SCIENCE and involves the study of mental processes and behaviour in the context of real life experiences. This course is for those who have an enquiring mind, like to discuss and wish to gain an understanding of how humans (and non-humans) develop, socialise and interact with each other. Psychology is not just an academic subject; it's a life-skill.

A level Psychology Course Content (AQA)

Paper 1	Social Influence – Why do people conform to group pressures and obey authority? How might this apply in our daily lives?
Paper 1	Memory – Why do we remember and how do we forget? Case studies of people with memory problems and how they have shaped what we know about memory.
Paper 1	Attachment – What happens when attachments go wrong in early infancy? Can our future relationships be shaped through these childhood experiences?
Paper 1	Psychopathology – What is 'abnormality'? How do people develop Phobias, Depression and OCD and how do psychologists help with treatment?
Paper 2	Approaches in Psychology – What are the origins of Psychology and is Psychology a science? Why can't psychologists agree on how to explain our behaviour?
Paper 2	Biopsychology – The role of neurotransmitters, hormones and genes in the understanding of behaviour. How specialist areas of the brain are involved in the way we behave.
Paper 2	Research Methods – How do we investigate behaviour? How should psychological research be carried out and interpreted?
Paper 3	Issues and debates in Psychology – Including nature/nurture, freewill/determinism, idiographic/nomothetic and holism/reductionism.
We will then select 1 topic from each of these option blocks:	
Paper 3	Relationships, Gender, or Cognitive Development
Paper 3	Schizophrenia, Eating Behaviour, or Stress
Paper 3	Aggression, Forensic Psychology, or Addiction

Career Pathway

Students will develop transferable skills that both support study in a wide range of subjects at university and the transition to employment, including quantitative and analytical analysis and forming and testing hypotheses. The development and application of mathematical skills prepare students for study of psychology and related courses at university. Many of our students progress from this qualification to higher education qualifications such as psychology degrees, and biology-related courses. Assessment is at the end of the course where students sit 3 x 2 hour papers; questions are both short-answer and essay based

Should you like to receive any additional information on this course please contact Ms Jennie Mackay – Subject Leader or Ms Lissa Rogers – Director of Sixth Form / Teacher of Psychology