

The Gryphon School

Sixth Form

Psychology Induction Booklet



‘The Science of Mind and Behaviour’

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Course Overview

At The Gryphon School we follow the **AQA** Specification. Across the two years, you will cover a total of 11 topics. The culmination of this learning is three 2 hour examinations at the end of Year 13. This is detailed below:

Paper 1 96 marks 2 hours	Paper 2 96 marks 2 hours	Paper 3 96 marks 2 hours
Social Influence (24 marks)	Approaches (24 marks)	Issues and Debates (24 marks)
Memory (24 marks)	Biopsychology (24 marks)	Relationships (24 marks)
Attachment (24 marks)	Research Methods (48 marks)	Schizophrenia (24 marks)
Psychopathology (24 marks)		Forensic Psychology (24 marks)

At least 10% of the overall assessment for Psychology will contain **mathematical skills** equivalent to GCSE Higher Tier.

There are three assessment objectives (AOs) that we will refer to throughout the course:

AO1 31% of marks	AO2 31% of marks	AO3 38% of marks
Knowledge and Understanding	Application of knowledge	Evaluation and analysis

The AQA specification can be found here:

[AS and A-level Psychology Specification Specifications for first teaching in 2015 \(aqa.org.uk\)](https://www.aqa.org.uk/specifications-for-first-teaching/AS-and-A-level-psychology-specifications)

Course Delivery

You will have nine hours of timetabled Psychology lessons per fortnight. This will typically be split 5:4 between two teachers. Each teacher will cover different topics. You will be expected to complete up to four hours of independent study per week for Psychology.

In year 12, you will have the following teachers and they will cover the following topics in the given sequence:

Mr. Thomas (CTH) – Ss2	Mr. Simmons (KSI) – Ss3
Maths in Psychology	Literacy in Psychology
Research Methods Part 1 and 2	Approaches in Psychology
Memory	Social Influence
Attachment	Clinical Psychology and Mental Health

Lesson resources such as PowerPoints and worksheets will be made available on Teams in case there are periods of absence, to allow you to catch up on missed work.

We believe strongly that Psychology is a scientific discipline and therefore where possible practical opportunities will be a feature of the course, to allow you to develop your knowledge and understanding practically.

You will have digital access to the textbook, but we would strongly encourage you to purchase the following revision guide:

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/Level-Psychology-Complete-Revision-Practice/dp/1782943307>

Assessment

Assessment should be predictable and therefore you will always have advanced warning of upcoming assessments.

The number of assessments for each topic is detailed below:

Topic	Number of Assessments
Research Methods Parts 1 and 2	3 assessments
Approaches in Psychology	3 assessments
Social Influence	3 assessments
Memory	3 assessments
Attachment	3 assessments
Psychopathology	3 assessments

This totals nine assessments per teacher in Year 12. All of these assessments are worth 24 marks, and the questions in them reflect the diverse range of questions you can expect from Psychology A Level, including:

- Multiple Choice Questions
- Short answer Questions
- Extended Essay Questions

The use of regular assessment ensures that you get regular feedback on how to improve, and that we as teachers can get a reliable average of your attainment. Your marks for each assessment will be uploaded to a centralised spreadsheet to allow for monitoring of your progress and appropriate interventions and parental contact to be made.

Departmental Expectations

There are five '**Golden Rules**' in this department:

1. Attend all lessons, catch up on work that is missed
2. R.E.S.P.E.C.T towards each other is a must
3. Consolidate your knowledge and complete homework every week
4. Talk to your teachers if you need support, we are here to help
5. Phones should not be visible in the classroom

Homework and Consolidation:

For each topic you will be given a 'Homework and Consolidation Booklet' with the expectation that you consolidate your knowledge here, make flashcards and answer past exam questions to prepare you for the assessments. This will be discussed more in September.

The learning journey we anticipate looks like this:

Notes in Class	Consolidation Notes	Revision	Past Paper Questions
Students will actively engage with lessons, and take detailed notes in exercise books which are provided.	After initial learning, students will consolidate this knowledge in their homework booklets, and write flashcard revision notes.	Students will use their revision flashcard notes and other consolidation materials to revise now and in the future.	Students will be able to attempt past paper questions for homework. These will be self-assessed using mark schemes.
			

Summer Transition Tasks

Over the summer we would like you to complete these transition tasks:

For Mr. Thomas please do the following:

- Complete this Maths Audit as we will be completing a short Maths in Psychology topic in September and I would like to know areas that we need to focus on in more detail. Please complete this by 8st September 2025. Late entries will not be accepted:
<https://forms.office.com/e/5wUeBeiPiu>

For Mr. Simmons please do the following:

- Watch the following documentary by Derren Brown and complete the Microsoft Forms based on what you have watched. Please complete this by the 8th September 2025.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HDtMMsFoHuY>
<https://forms.office.com/e/0pwKendDCh>

See you in September! Well done on choosing the best A Level! 😊