

AS/A Level Psychology

Psychology is undergoing some major specification changes, which are in line with the general A Level assessment modifications taking place nationally. In September 2015 a new specification become available be taught and there are some implications in regard to the course requirements, content and assessment, across all exam boards.

At St Aloysius College we follow the AQA specification, which is a new specification, in 2015.

Entry requirements for AS/A Level Psychology will be Grade B in English and Maths and Grade C in Science GCSE.

There are major changes to the way AS/A Levels are being assessed and as of September 2015, all A Levels will be linear. This has implications for the taught course as students will be required to sit the AS Psychology exams at the end of Year Twelve as well as the A Level exams at the end of Year Thirteen. This is very valuable and we are lucky that the school has granted this as it enables the Psychology team to accurately predict and aid students. The new specification is designed so that the AS and A level course is co teachable

AS Psychology:

During the AS year students will cover two areas of Psychology, and the students will then sit two examinations based on these areas, at the end of Year Twelve. This will constitute the AS Psychology course.

Paper One: Introductory topics in Psychology.

The areas that we will cover are:

- Memory
- Attachment
- Social influence

Paper Two: Psychology in Context:

The areas we will cover are:

- Psychopathology
- Approaches
- Research Methods

A Level Psychology:

During the A Level year, students will build upon the areas already covered in the AS course, as well as additional A Level units. The A Level Psychology course has three exam papers, which include the AS topics. The content of each of the A Level examinations are outlined below:

Paper One: Introductory topics in Psychology.

The areas we will cover are:

- Memory
- Attachment
- Social influence
- Psychopathology

Paper Two:

The areas we will cover are:

- Approaches
- Biopsychology
- Research Methods

Paper Three:

The areas we will cover are:

- Issues and debates
- Gender
- Schizophrenia
- Addiction

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