



# Psychology – Bridging Work

## **Why study Psychology A Level?**

Psychology is the scientific study of the mind and behaviour. Psychologists develop explanations and theories to help them to predict people's behaviour in different situations. These theories or explanations are tested by psychologists using research studies. You will learn to develop a keen grasp for the scientific nature of psychological research, including how it should be conducted, analysed and reported.

*What can I do after Psychology A Level?*

Psychology A Level can prepare you for a number of careers, including: therapist, counsellor, other roles in the medical field or health services, charity-based work, graphic design, business/HR, sport, computing and further study in the field of Psychology.

## **Psychology A Level at a glance**

Within the topics we explore how different approaches, theories and research experiments explain human behaviour. It is also important to know that maths and statistics form an important part of the Psychology A Level.

For the full A Level in psychology, which is sat at the end of year 13, students will sit 3 exams, each for 2 hours and each worth 33.3% of the final grade. These will be written exams with a mixture of multiple choice, short answer and extended writing questions.

Paper 1	Paper 2	Paper 3
Social Influence Memory Attachment Clinical Psychology and Mental Health	Approaches Biopsychology Research Methods	Issues and Debates Schizophrenia Relationships Forensics

## ***How is the course assessed?***

3 x 2 hour exam papers in the summer of Year 13 (there is **no coursework**).

We follow the AQA specification: [A-level Psychology 7182 | Overview | AQA](#)



## **The purpose of the transition work**

This bridging unit is designed to provide you with an introduction to the main ideas in Psychology, particularly the topics you will cover in Year 12. It will provide you with a basis of understanding before you start the course.

If you have any questions about the bridging work, please e-mail Mrs Jordan: [kjordan@holytrinitycrawley.org.uk](mailto:kjordan@holytrinitycrawley.org.uk)

## **Task 1: Introductory Course**

You need to complete the Introduction Course (11 steps) via this link:

[Transition to AQA A-Level Psychology | 2025 Specification Getting Started | tutor2u](#)

The site will track your progress, and I would suggest that you make notes throughout each section to bring to your lessons in the autumn term.

Once you have completed the course, download or print screen or take a photo the completion page and your progress.

## **Task 2: What is your motivation for studying Psychology?**

Psychology Research behind the task:

Many U.S. undergraduates take a Gateway STEM course - a general science requirement for fields like Medicine, Engineering, Chemistry, etc. These courses often feel irrelevant or repetitive, leading to disengagement.

**30% of students leave STEM** within 2.5 years after completing the course.

### **Research Intervention**

**Group 1:** Wrote standard essays.

**Group 2:** Wrote essays **plus** reflected on:

- How the information could help a friend or family member.
- How it could help society or people in need.



**Goal:** Make students consider **why the subject matters in the real world.**

## Results

Overall STEM persistence: **70% → 74%.**

First-generation students: **55% → 69%.**

Students reported **greater interest and engagement.**

**TO BE COMPLETED - With this in mind, before you begin your Psychology A Level complete the following. You will want to research the role Psychology plays in society and the economy. Try to research beyond mental health, consider business, education, sport, computing, AI and beyond.**

**You must bring this to your first lesson**

<p><b>How is Psychology useful to you in your own life?</b></p> <p>Think about the skills you might be learning, the challenges that will shape you, the new information and understanding you will gain</p>	
<p><b>How is Psychology potentially useful to people in your close circle?</b></p> <p>Think about friends or family members whose lives are positively impact by psychology.</p>	
<p><b>How is Psychology useful to your community?</b></p> <p>Think about how Psychology or psychologists might have shaped the community and environment you live in (shops, services etc)</p>	



**How is Psychology useful to wider or global society?**

Think about the whole of the country and beyond. What does psychology contribute on a national or international scale? How does it improve lives? What problems does it solve?

**Why is Psychology on the curriculum at all?**

We can only study a small number of subjects in school, why did psychology make the list?