



Psychology A Level

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Why King's?

Facilities

- Dedicated and well-resourced classrooms.
- Outstanding library with computer and iPad facilities.
- Enthusiastic, friendly and experienced teaching staff

Highlights

- Brand new A Level at King's in September 2021
- Dynamic and inspiring teaching
- University lectures, outside speakers and trips

What is Psychology?

Psychology is the scientific study of the human mind and behaviour. Psychologists observe and conduct experiments to find out more about the way people act and interact. They try to understand what motivates, challenges or changes us and use this understanding to help tackle personal and social problems.

Why Psychology?

Psychology is one of the most popular subject choices at A-level. It is a demanding academic subject that will improve your ability to think critically, analyse and construct effective arguments. It is counted as a Science by most universities and an 'academic' A Level, though there are a few exceptions. You will develop your understanding of scientific research methods, including collecting, manipulating and analysing data. Learning about human behaviour can also help to build your communication skills and improve your teamwork and leadership skills.



Academic Performance

28% A*

88% A*-C,

100% pass rate

2023 Results

“ I think the idea of investigating how people's brains work and why people do what they do is extremely interesting. I've loved looking at the experiments and theories done by psychologists in the past, and how they came to conclusions about behaviour. ”

Current Upper Sixth student

Psychology will complement just about any other subject. You can take Psychology alongside any other A level, there are no other subjects that you "ought" to take with Psychology. Psychology is a multifaceted scientific subject. Not only does it lead to a variety of psychology specific degree options but studying psychology also serves as a valuable basis for other higher education options (e.g., neuroscience; law; education; business).

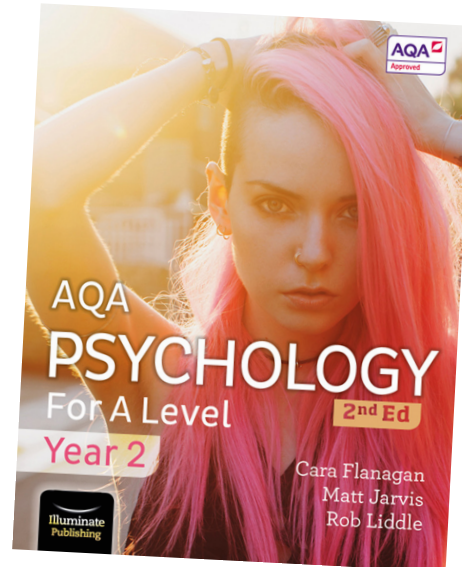
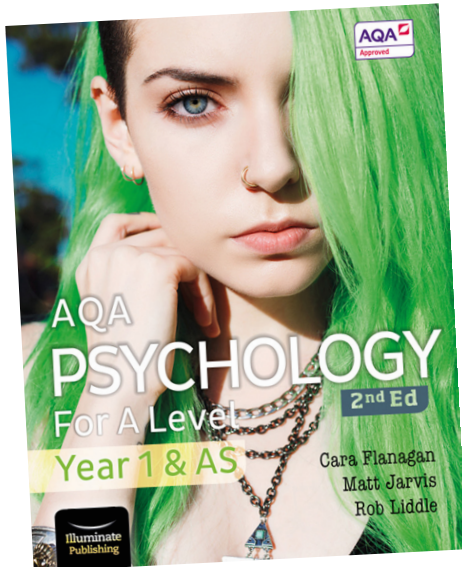




I am really enjoying Psychology. It's been really interesting and enjoyable to learn a whole new subject. I am looking forward to seeing what doors psychology opens for me in the future.



Current Upper Sixth student



Our approach

At King's we bring Psychology alive and make the subject relevant to you and those around you. The subject is taught through lectures, group-work, practical projects, research, discussions, presentations and role-play. As you study psychology you will begin to understand the factors that affect your behaviour, you will learn about yourself and why you do the things you do. It can teach you about the ways people interact in social situations and give you a better understanding of your own feelings and attitudes. You will also learn techniques that may help you study more effectively.

The aim of the Psychology department is to stimulate curiosity, enjoyment and interest in Psychology and to inspire a passion for the subject and for learning. Our department is well-resourced with excellent digital resources, textbooks, and periodicals.

Challenge

A Level Psychology involves challenges such as learning to write structured essays, grasping ethical issues within the subject, analysing data from research, evaluating the usefulness of theories and even designing and conducting your own scientific investigations. We look to apply theories to real life situations, such as understanding why eyewitness testimony is flawed and which treatments are the most effective for psychological disorders such as OCD, Phobias, Depression and Schizophrenia. Students are encouraged to develop their knowledge and understanding of Psychology outside the classroom, through

keeping up with current research in magazines such as Psychology review or through books and documentaries.

The course is broken down into three broad sections:

1. Introductory Topics in Psychology (Paper 1) – Social Influence, Memory, Attachment and Psychopathology
2. Psychology in Context (Paper 2) – Approaches to Psychology, Biopsychology and Research Methods
3. Issues & Options (Paper 3) – Issues & Debates, Relationships, Schizophrenia and Forensic Psychology.

The assessment is made up of three two-hour exams in the summer of the second year.

Beyond

- Psychology clinic
- An opportunity to carry out your own psychological research.
- Take part in psychological research.
- Lectures on specific topics and talks by leading psychologists.

For further information please visit the Psychology pages on our website



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