

# Psychology

## Examination Board: WJEC-Eduqas

### Why study Psychology?

Psychology is the study of mind and behaviour. This course explores historical and current psychological approaches and research involving both humans and animals. Students will also have the opportunity to put their psychological skills into practice by conducting their own research projects. In addition, there are opportunities to debate psychological controversies and how psychology contributes to the success of the economy and society. Are you naturally curious and always asking 'why'? Do you enjoy a range of GCSE subjects? If so, psychology could be for you.

Psychology is a versatile qualification as, in addition to providing a foundation for further study at degree level, it can be applied to a wide range of career paths such as law, management, education, social work, leisure and tourism, counselling, and health care professions. Psychology combines well with Arts and Science subjects as the course provides opportunities for candidates to develop and apply key skills in the areas of Communication, Scientific Enquiry, Application of Data Handling and Information Technology.

### Entry Requirements

There are no specific requirements for prior learning; it is expected that for the majority this will be a new subject area. It is desirable for candidates to have achieved Grades A-C in GCSE, in English, Mathematics and Biology or Science.

### Subject Specification

The AS-level is a stand alone qualification which does not contribute towards the GCE award but can be co-taught with the A-level. It consists of Component 1 and Component 2 below, omitting personal investigation, with examinations of 1 hr 45 mins worth 50% each of the AS qualification.

#### Component 1 - Psychology: Past to Present

Written examination - 2 hrs 15 mins (33⅓% of qualification)

Questions relating to five psychological approaches (Biological, Psychodynamic, Behaviourist, Cognitive and Positivist), related therapies, classic pieces of research evidence and a given contemporary debate.

#### Component 2 - Psychology: Investigating Behaviour

Written examination 2 hrs 15 mins (33⅓% of qualification)

Principles of research – how psychological investigations are carried out.

Personal investigations – based on the two investigative activities carried out prior to the assessment.

Application of research methods to a novel scenario – responses to a piece of research previously unseen.

#### Component 3 - Psychology: Implications in the Real World

Written examination 2 hrs 15 mins (33⅓% of qualification)

##### Section A – Applications

A choice of three\* structured questions from six on psychological behaviours;

(Addictive, Autistic Spectrum, Bullying, Criminal, Schizophrenia, Stress) \* *To be chosen by DVW*

##### Section B – Controversies

One question from a choice of two requiring a synoptic exploration of five psychological controversies;

Culture bias

Ethical costs of conducting research

Non-human animals

Scientific status

Sexism

### Further information

Students or parents requiring any further details are most welcome to contact Mrs D Walters, Head of Psychology ([dvw@oswestryschool.org.uk](mailto:dvw@oswestryschool.org.uk)).

