

PSYCHOLOGY

EXAMINING BOARD: OCR

ACCREDITATION: Students taking this course sit common papers and are able to achieve a full range of GCSE grades (G- A*).

NATURE OF THE SUBJECT:

Psychology is the study of the mind and of behaviour. The course covers five of the major approaches in Psychology as well as looking at how Psychological research is carried out.

THE CONTENT:

- Biological Psychology e.g. Sex and Gender
- Cognitive Psychology e.g. Memory
- Developmental Psychology e.g. Parent-infant attachment
- Social Psychology e.g. Obedience
- Individual Differences e.g. Phobias
- Research in Psychology

THE NATURE OF THE WORK:

This is a difficult but interesting course. The format of the lessons will vary from topic to topic. In some lessons you will be researching information on your own, at other times you will take part in group work. The course involves a lot of essay writing and statistical calculations. You may be asked to prepare and make presentations in front of other students. The course is based upon textbook, and visual and video resources, but we also encourage students to access information from the Internet. Class discussion plays an important part in this course.

ASSESSMENT:

Assessment is by three written exam papers which include short-answer and structured essay questions:

- Studies and Applications in Psychology 1 (1 hour 15 minutes / 40%)
- Studies and Applications in Psychology 2 (1 hour 15 minutes / 40%)
- Research in Psychology (1 hour / 20%)

POSSIBLE CAREERS:

Psychology will help you improve your skills in reading, writing, speaking, researching and evaluating. After successfully completing this course you could go on to study an advanced course in Psychology in the Sixth Form, and then consider careers in Clinical Psychology, Sports Psychology, Educational Psychology, Criminal Psychology, Research, Education, Health etc

WHO IS SUITABLE FOR THE COURSE:

The course is suitable for students interested in how we think and behave. It is a demanding course which requires the ability to read, understand and evaluate new material. It also requires the ability to analyse mathematical data and write structured essays.

For students to be successful in this subject they should be achieving Level 6 in Mathematics, English and Science.

FURTHER INFORMATION: Mrs. L Williams or Mr S Rhind C20