

# INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY A- LEVEL

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# Welcome to Psychology!

- Mrs Nye (Head of Psychology) – [Inye@bestacademies.org.uk](mailto:Inye@bestacademies.org.uk)
- Miss Priano – [apriano@bestacademies.org.uk](mailto:apriano@bestacademies.org.uk)
- Miss Boateng (does not start until next week)  
[nboateng@mybest.org.uk](mailto:nboateng@mybest.org.uk)

Please contact us if you have any questions/concerns over the summer holidays.

- From September you will (hopefully) have 8 lessons split between myself and Miss Boateng – and when Miss Priano returns – most classes will be split between the 3 teachers.

# What is Psychology to you?

Try and come up with a definition of what psychology is

and

The types of things you think we might learn about in psychology

Psychology is....

Psyche

Meaning "human soul, mind or spirit"

and

ology

Meaning "study of"

# Psychology is....

## The science of the mind and behaviour



# Why are you here?

- Talk to the person next to you....
- Why are you choosing psychology
  - Do you have a career in mind
  - Did you do GCSE and love it?
  - Did you not do GCSE but wish you had?
  - Did you just have an option box left over.....?

What is a good psych

Do you

I can

**PERFECT!**



g!

ers!

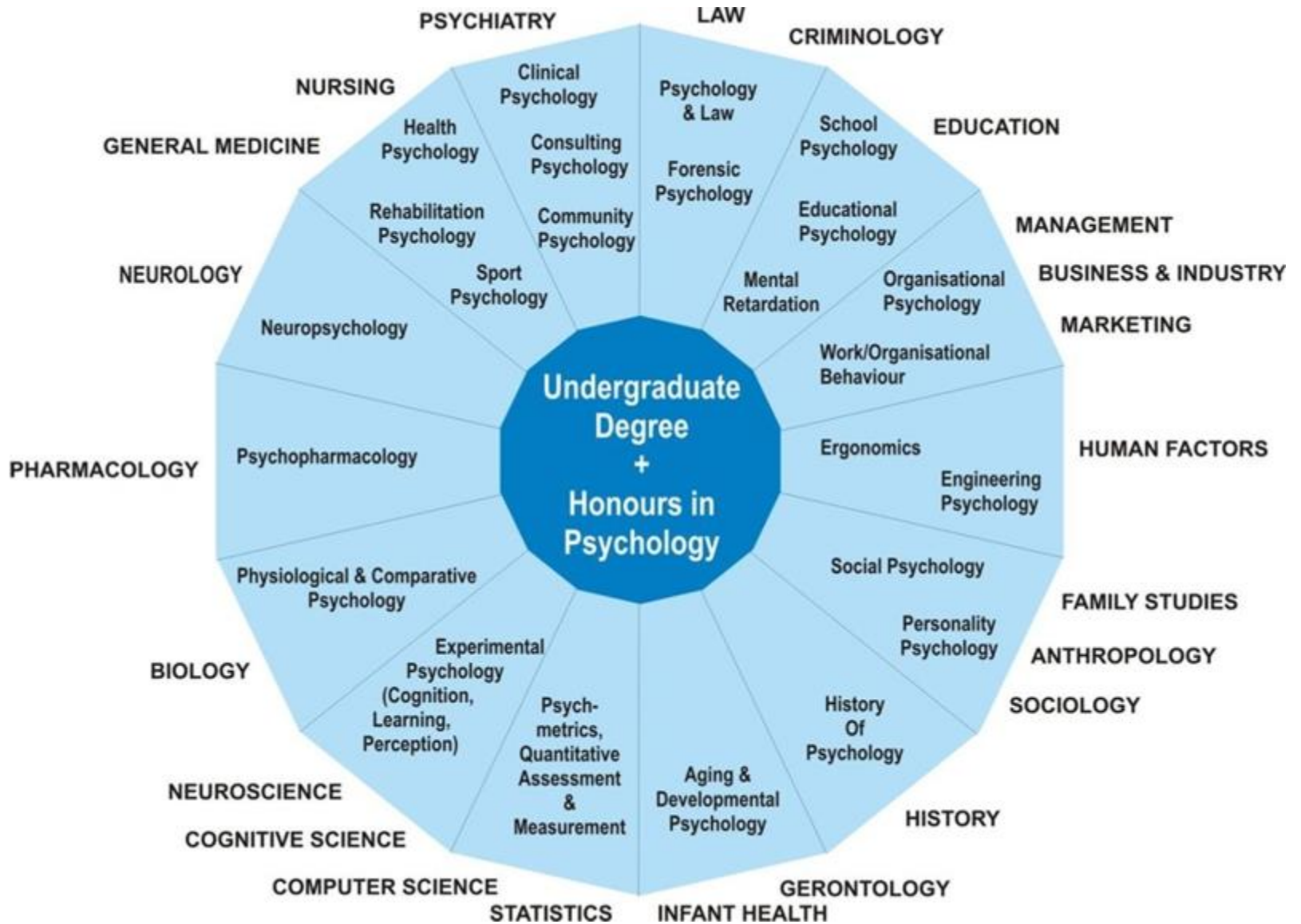
periments!

and like to see things

new way!

willing to work hard!







# A-Level Psychology

3 exams at the end of the 2 years.

## Paper 1 - Introductory Topics

- Social influence
- Memory
- Attachment
- Psychopathology

2 hours

96 marks

33% of A level

Multiple choice,  
short answer and  
extended writing.

## Paper 2: Psychology in Context

- Approaches
- Biopsychology
- Research methods  
(worth double)

• 2 hours

• 96 marks

• 33% of A level

Multiple choice, short  
answer and extended  
writing.

## Paper 3: Issues and Options

Issues and Debates  
Aggression  
Schizophrenia  
Relationships

96 marks

33% of A level

2 hours

Multiple choice, short  
answer and extended  
writing.

# What you need to study Psychology next year?

- APS 4.7
- Grade 5 in GCSE Maths (discussion with department if a grade 4 is achieved and other criteria is met)
- Grade 5 in GCSE Language and/or Literature
- Two grade 4s needed in GCSE Sciences
- If studied Psychology at GCSE a Grade 5 is needed
- We recommend any student below a grade 6 in Maths to undertake the L3 Mathematical Studies course in year 12.

## Expectations – Attendance & Missed Lessons

- > Attendance should be 90% or above – academic referrals are sent home if attendance drops below this.
- > If you are absent you will need to;
  1. Email class teacher to inform of absence
  2. Access learning resources from the learning platform (google drive) or the google classroom.
  3. Speak to class members to catch up on notes
  4. Do not come to next lesson having not caught up.

# Expectations Class Room Conduct

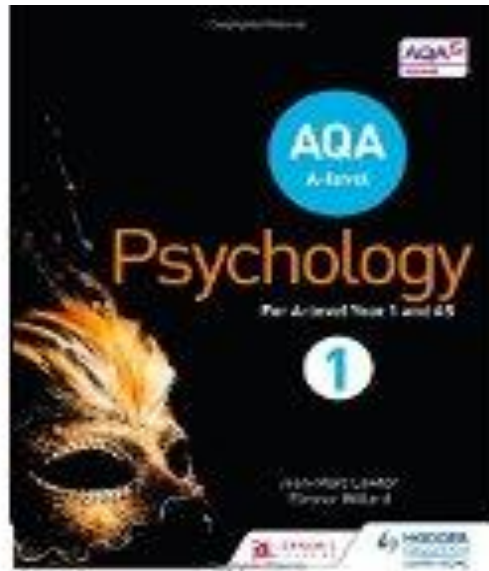
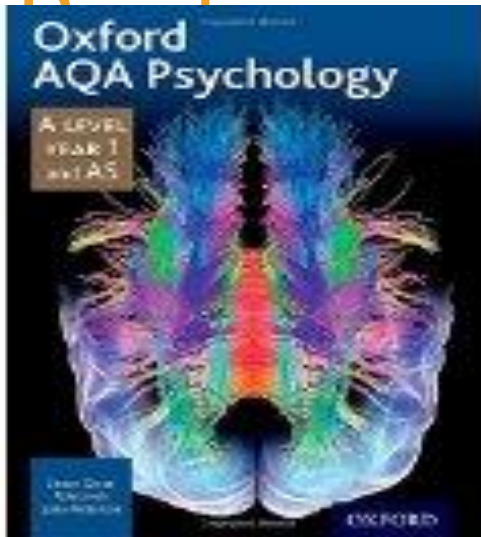
- **Attitude in the classroom** – if you are disruptive, not completing work etc. you will be asked to leave, academic referrals will be given and calls home will be made.
- **Independent learning : Organisation of your prep time is key!** - you will have time allocated on your TT to Psychology. Make sure you complete the work set (prep work).
- **Homework:** To complete any work set following a lesson to consolidate learning.
- **Prep work:** Checks will take place in lessons to see you have completed prep for the lesson – this could be an article to read, video to watch, research to complete.
- **Folder checks:** it is really important you organise your notes EARLY – you will be given an RAG sheet for each topic and should organise your class notes/prep using this. Folder checks will happen at the end of units.
- **Private Study:** In addition, there will be an expectation that you complete 2 hours of additional work independently from a given list. For example, extra reading, watching of appropriate film/tv, revision for assessment.
- All assessments should be hand-written unless you have exam arrangements.
- Phones should not be seen or heard in lessons unless directed to use them by your teacher for a specific task.

# Equipment for Psychology

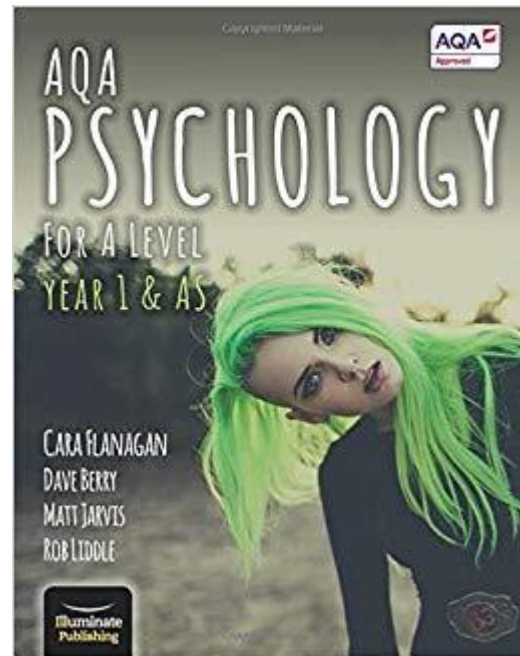
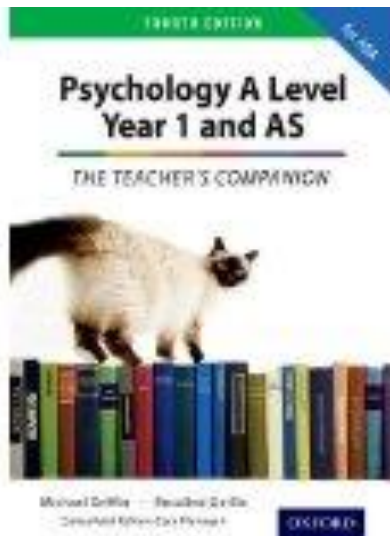
- Ring Binder folder for class notes
- Paper & Pens (multiple)
- Textbook (not mandatory but recommended)
- We provide assessment folder and plastic wallets.
- Scissors, glue, highlighter, calculator and ruler.

## **Please note about Laptop Use**

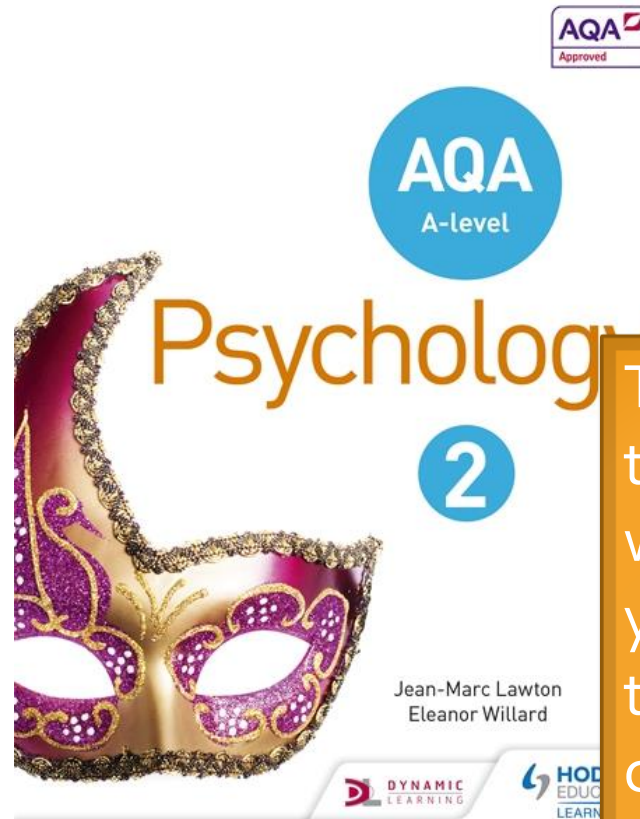
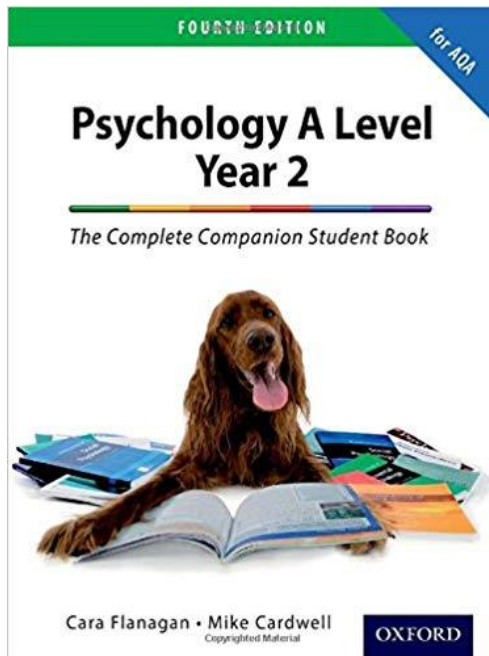
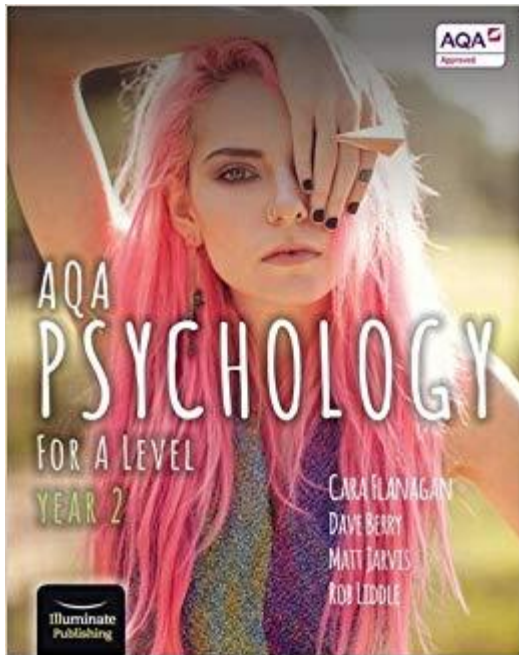
- Some of you may wish to bring in laptops to work on during lessons but please make sure you are competent and confident in the use of technology and google classroom – so that it is helpful for you and does not hinder your learning.
- We advise that you hand-write notes (unless you have access to laptop/word processor in exams) and then during prep time if you wish to, type up notes.
- If you are working electronically please make sure you are dating and titling the work accurately, as well as keeping it organised in folders (as you would with written work).



These are the year 1 textbooks. We would advise that you have a look at the books and choose the style that suits you.



We do recommend you buy a textbook for both years of psychology.



These are the year 2 textbooks. We would advise that you have a look at the books and choose the style that suits you.

We do recommend you buy a textbook for both years of psychology.

A large, orange, multi-pointed starburst shape with a thin black outline, centered on a white background. The text "ANY QUESTIONS?" is written in white, uppercase letters inside the starburst.

ANY  
QUESTIONS?



15  
Minutes

# Task 1 – FACT OR FAKE

- You will need to get into groups of 4.
- You have been given 6 pieces of psychological research.
- In your groups you need to decide which pieces of research are real and which are fake.
- You will need to prepare reasons for your choices and we will share as a group your decisions.
- Questions to consider!
- What makes you suspicious of the research study?
- What has made you think it could be fake?
- Is the concept one that could be tested objectively?
- Does the research method used make you question the truthfulness of the research?
- Is the research too unethical to have really taken place?

Research Study 1

Research Study 2

Research Study 3

Research Study 4

Research Study 5

Research Study 6



# Information



- You have been given a list of eight people who want to move in.
- You need to number them 1 – 8 on who you want to live in the house.
- Number 1 being your favourite 😊
- Number 8 being you least favourite ☹️

**A lady with 20  
cats**

**An old man**

**A head teacher**

**An unemployed  
teenager**

**An ex-bank  
manager**

**A homeless  
woman**

**A murderer who  
has been released  
from prison**

**A thief**

Time: 5 mins

# Are you sure?

- It is a few weeks before your new neighbour is due to move in and you are about to hand your list in to the council.
- You now receive some new information!

# The lady with 20 cats

- Sarah is 45 years old and helps out at the local primary school once a week.
- She is very friendly and the year 5's love her!



# Head Teacher

- The Head Teacher is undergoing investigation for physically assaulting many of his teaching staff.



# Old man

- Has spent time in prison for drug offences and many violent crimes





# Thief



- Janet has been caught by the police on several occasions for stealing bread and milk to feed her children.
- She is single mum who cant always afford to feed her family, so when they get home from school they are sometimes very hungry.
- Janet is looking for a new job to pay her more money so she doesn't have to steal any more.

# A teenager without a job

- Gary is aged 19, and recently lost his job
- He wishes to move to your town as he thinks he will be able to get a new job there.
- He also feels he might be able to help his neighbours out by doing a few odd jobs.



# Ex-Bank Manager

- Fred was fired from the bank as he was stealing the customers money.



# Homeless woman



- Jane is 25 and sadly her parents passed away when she was younger.
- She dropped out of school at an early age so has little qualifications, so is finding it hard to find a job to give her money to pay for a house.
- The local council want to help her by letting her stay in the house so she can find a job.

# Murderer who has been released from prison

- Sam is 41 and has been released from prison for serving 20 years for murder.
- When Sam was younger his friend was being attacked for no reason.
- Sam tried to help his friend but in the process wounded the attacker over who later died of his injuries.
- Sam is a loving person, who is very friendly and kind who wants a fresh start.



# Re-group

- A new meeting has been planned for next week where you have agreed to look at changing your list
- In your groups rank from 1-8 the people you feel should be given the house now that you have detailed information on each person.

5 mins

# Did your list change?

- Why did your list change?
- What have you learnt from this?
  
- Psychology: Why do we stereotype?

Schemas – cluster of information, makes it easier for our brains to take in and store information.

What schemas do you have? Are they the same as everyone else's? Why?

# Summer task!

- Find the programme “Three Identical Strangers” which is on Netflix and All4/4OD.
- At the heart of nearly every behaviour we study in psychology is the debate of whether our behaviour is caused by nature (genes/biology) or nurture (upbringing/environment).
- Watch the film and use the evidence presented in the film to decide on whether you think the behaviours displayed by the 3 brothers are evidence of nature or nurture.
- You need to write a summary of your thoughts, using evidence from the film to support your conclusions.



# Task 2 – Sell your Approach

20  
Minutes

- In your groups from task 1 you now need to come up with product campaign to “Sell your Approach to Psychology”
- Each group will be given an approach and you will need to complete the following:
- Give the approach a catchphrase that explains what it is

## Content:

- What is this approach?
- Identify some really positive features about the approach and make it attractive to potential customers. (It must be based on facts about the approach)

## Unique selling point:

- What features of your brand make it different to what’s already available?

## Competition:

- What features make your chosen approach better than all of the competitor brands?

## Target audience:

- To whom are you marketing your brand (and why)?

## Marketing:

- Suggest a marketing strategy to sell your approach to consumers, Mention the therapies that will solve their problems.