



Course Outline

The psychology course is divided into three areas

- Individual Behaviour – this consists of a mandatory topic, Sleep and Dreams, and one optional topic from Depression, Memory or Stress
- Social Behaviour – this consists of a mandatory topic, Conformity and Obedience, and one optional topic from Prejudice, Aggression and Social Relationships.
- Research – this takes the shape of a Research Assignment based on researched carried out by the student.

The course assessment consists of an examination paper worth 80 marks and a research assignment worth 40 marks. The exam covers each of the 4 topics taught (20 marks each). The Research Assignment is an externally assessed report produced by the student over the course of the session. This 2000-2500 word study is submitted in March.

To improve on his/her current performance in **Higher Psychology** your child must do the following:

General	✓
Increase effort in class to ensure all work is complete.	
Attend class consistently.	
Complete all homework tasks set.	
Engage more in class discussions to develop knowledge and understanding.	
Ensure deadlines are met for SQA Research Assignment.	
Individual Behaviour	✓
Read over course notes for the Individual Behaviour topic being currently covered in class.	
Revise relevant theories in the topic and be able to explain, analyse and evaluate them.	
Revise relevant studies for the topic and be able to explain, analyse and evaluate them.	
Be able to relate relevant theories and studies to real situations.	
Consolidate knowledge of Individual Behaviour topics by practising past paper type questions	
Social Behaviour	✓
Read over and revise course notes for the Social Behaviour currently covered in class.	
Revise relevant theories in the topic and be able to explain, analyse and evaluate them.	
Revise relevant studies for the topic and be able to explain, analyse and evaluate them.	
Be able to relate relevant theories and studies to real situations.	
Consolidate knowledge of Social Behaviour topics by practising past paper type questions.	
Research Assignment	✓
Complete a piece of research along with a small group of fellow pupils.	
Read and research studies relevant to the topic of your own research.	
Revise aspects of research such as method, design, sampling and ethics.	
Show an awareness of BPS ethical guidelines and apply this to research assignment.	
Write up assignment using the appropriate headings.	
Ensure all appendices have been attached.	

Websites : SQA – Higher Psychology; Scholar – Higher Psychology; SQA – past papers.

Point of contact :

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