

Supporting Your Learner

Higher

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Course Outline

The Higher Psychology course is designed to introduce learners to psychology as the scientific study of human behaviour. There are three main units within the Higher course;

- Psychology – Research
- Psychology – Social Behaviour (Mandatory topic of Conformity and Obedience and an optional topic for example Prejudice)
- Psychology – Individual Behaviour (Mandatory topic of Sleep, Dreams and Sleep Disorders and an optional topic for example Stress or Psychopathology).

Pupils will complete a Research Assignment which will account for 40% of their overall grade. Candidates will also undertake a final SQA exam which will include questions on these three areas of study.



Exam Preparation

As the Higher Psychology exam approaches, pupils should carry out as much timed practise of exam questions as possible, as well as increasing the volume of reading they complete. The Psychology exam is divided into three sections each worth 20 marks. 40 minutes is allocated to each 20 mark section therefore pupils should prepare by practising these sections under timed conditions. Pupils will have the opportunity to carry out exam practise in class also.

Useful Websites

At present Higher Psychology does not have a section on the BBC Bitesize website, it is however a very popular subject at GCSE/A level and at College/University level therefore there are many useful websites which cover the key concepts. As a starting point pupils may wish to access the following;

[Simple Psychology](#)
[Crash Course Psychology Youtube Videos](#)

Useful Textbooks

At present there is only one Higher Psychology textbook available (see below) however any *Introduction to Psychology* textbook will cover the main approaches, theories and concepts which are required by the SQA.

[Leckie and Leckie](#)



Revision Classes

Currently Higher revision classes are offered by Miss Bulloch on a Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday after school. Pupils are also always welcome to seek out Miss Bulloch, Dr Wilson or Mrs Montgomery for advice at lunch, the start or end of the day.

SQA Past Papers

The link below will allow you to access the most recent past examination papers as well as specimen papers produced by the SQA. There are also Marking Schemes on this page.

[SQA Higher Psychology Past Papers](#)

Understanding Standards

The link below to the SQA website will allow you to see where markers have awarded marks to exemplar papers and read their comments on the candidate's response. Both exemplar exam scripts and Assignments are available.

[Understanding Standards: Higher Psychology](#)

