

# Psychology skills

Psychological knowledge isn't the only thing you'll learn on an A Level psychology course; you'll also build a wide range of transferable skills that will aid your personal and career development.

## Writing skills

You will learn to write short, medium and extended answers to a variety of questions that will help you develop written skills both in psychology and across other subjects. In the process reading and summarising skills will also be developed.

## Evaluation

This means assessing the strengths and weaknesses of any research in terms of what was carried out well and what improvements could be made. This could involve making comparisons with other similar research and drawing conclusions.

## Analysis and critical thinking

A large aspect of psychology study involves developing conclusions and arguments based upon previous studies and theories. This ability to think critically and evaluate the relative merits and problems of each theory and study being reviewed is a crucial part of psychology. Therefore, without even realising it, you'll develop your analytical skills throughout the duration of your psychology course.

## Time management

Managing your time across all your A levels and personal activities is important. You will learn how to effectively manage your time for the future whether this is university, employment or your personal life.

## Reasoning

Applying logic and reason to non-quantifiable studies and theories is a key part of the analysis that's required as part of a psychology A Level or GCSE. By practising this regularly through your studies, you'll develop strong reasoning skills.

## Communication

This is key across all your school/college subjects and throughout life in general. Your psychology course will help develop your ability to communicate clearly and accurately in the classroom, with your teachers and fellow students.

## Research

Carrying out research is a key part of any qualification in psychology and this will form an implicit part of your lessons. It will help build your ability to find, collate and draw conclusions from your research which will be a valuable skill in further education and employment.

## Problem solving

The ability to logically assess a problem and then produce a solution is a valuable strength that you will get through studying psychology. This skill is developed naturally throughout your course.

## Numeracy

While it might seem that psychology is a purely theoretical science, numeracy and statistics actually play a large role in many of the psychological theories and is a key element of practical research. As you study, you'll develop the ability to confidently organise and report your results effectively.

## Prioritising

A psychology programme is a demanding course, requiring you to read textbooks, write assignments and interact with fellow classmates. The ability to stay on top of your workload, while balancing your other subjects, family and possible work commitments, will allow you to develop your ability to prioritise and focus on the most appropriate task.