

**Social Sciences Faculty:
Psychology**

Psychology is one of the most popular A-level subjects studied at WHSG with four classes taught in Year 12 and three classes taught in Year 13. Currently taught by experienced Psychology specialists, we have very high expectations of our students in all areas of their work and encourage a healthy attitude to learning in all its aspects, including homework and independent study skills, listening and classwork activities, contribution to class discussions and, of course, punctuality and attendance.

Not only are the standards of the department high, so are students' achievements, with 82% of students achieving A*-B grades last year. This far exceeds both all AQA centres (48%) and similar AQA centres (67%). Many students go on to study Psychology at degree level, and we take an active role in helping students with their UCAS applications.

The AQA Linear A-Level specification is taught with a key focus on the skills and techniques necessary to achieve at the highest level. Students' familiarity with and understanding of the demands of the examination is key to success and, to this end, frequent peer, self, and teacher assessment is undertaken. Students take pride in their work and achievements, and this is routinely monitored via folder and progress checks.

The department is housed in our Hylands Sixth Form Centre, currently comprising three classrooms where Psychology classes may be taught concurrently, and a fully resourced Social Sciences Faculty office. We have a library of textbooks and periodicals to both support and stretch our students, and all students have access to an online textbook.

We encourage students to contribute to the wider life of Psychology within the school and, as such, they have a key role to play in the running of our Psychology Society and Psychology Film Club. Run entirely by the students, these extra-curricular activities function to provide the opportunity to gain an appreciation of the subject beyond the demands of the specification whilst also igniting an interest in Psychology among our younger students in Years 9 to 11. We also have Psychology Subject Ambassadors who further support with raising the profile of the subject through running subject fayres during Taster Days, supporting with Open Evenings, and assisting with other subject-specific events as required.

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