

# **Bridging the gap for Year 12 Psychology**

On the following pages, you will find details of the psychology media project and suggested activities to prepare you for Year 12 Psychology.

**AQA Psychology (7182)**

Specification: [www.tinyurl.com/AQAPsychology](http://www.tinyurl.com/AQAPsychology)

The topics that we currently offer are:

- Social Influence
- Memory
- Attachment
- Psychopathology
- Approaches
- Research Methods
- Biopsychology
- Issues and Debates
- Schizophrenia
- Relationships
- Forensic Psychology

The textbooks that we use in school are:

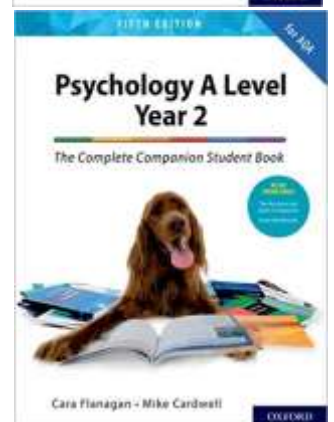
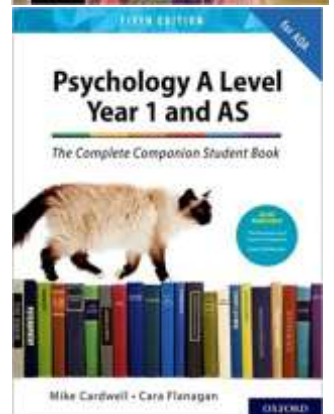
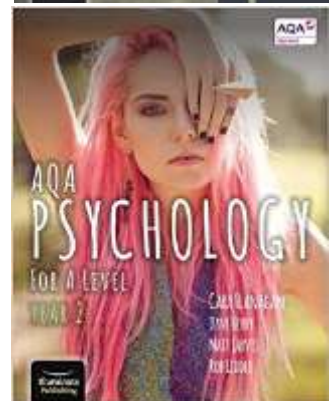
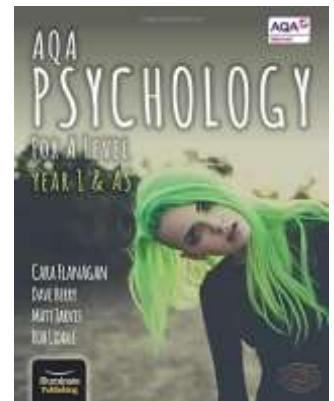
- *AQA Psychology for A Level Year 1 & AS - Student Book* (ISBN: 978-1908682406)
- *AQA Psychology for A Level Year 2 - Student Book* (ISBN: 978-1908682413)

Textbooks are **not** mandatory but may support you in your private study periods and at home. The department has several textbooks available for you to use at school.

If you choose to buy your own, please look around on several websites to save you money!

The following textbooks are not used in school but are still recommended (**not** mandatory):

- *The Complete Companion Student Book for AQA Year 1* (ISBN: 978-0198436324)
- *The Complete Companion Student Book for AQA Year 2* (ISBN: 978-0198436331)
- *Revise AQA A Level Psychology Revision Guide and Workbook* (ISBN: 978-1292111216)



This is a detailed and comprehensive assignment that you have been given. Do not rush it. We advise that you complete different parts of the transition pack at different points during your time off, rather than leaving it all until the final week of your break. You should expect to spend longer on these tasks than any homework you have completed before. A-Level Psychology will be a significant step up from the work you have completed in Year 11.

### **Task One – Approaches in Psychology**

There are some core approaches to Psychology that you need to know for your A level – they are different ways of explaining human behaviours. Some of these are listed below: your job is to do some research on them using the internet (Wikipedia, while sometimes untrustworthy, is very good for this! There are also plenty of great videos on YouTube you can watch). You should find out: what does this word mean? How might it explain human behaviour? Identify one key researcher from this area – and why are they famous?

- The Behaviourist Approach
- The Social Learning Theory Approach
- The Cognitive Approach
- The Biological Approach
- Optional extension: The Psychodynamic Approach & Humanistic Approach

### **Task Two – Psychological History**

You need to create an A4 Psychological History timeline. On your timeline you should include a number of features such as the ones below (but not necessarily ONLY these). To make a high quality timeline, you will need to do some additional research into what each of the events actually refers to – and why it might have been important to the development of Psychology.

The Curious Case of Phineas Gage, Wilhelm Wundt's Psychology Lab, foundation of the American Psychological Association, Sigmund Freud publishes "The Interpretation of Dreams", Pavlov's Dog Studies are published, Carl Rogers publishes "Counselling and Psychotherapy", the first use of a brain scan in Psychological research. This will be the focus of the first topic we will study next year. A great link for this task is <https://allpsych.com/timeline/>.

### **Task Three – Psychology Today**

Psychology is still a developing subject, with new research and information being revealed every single day. As keen young Psychologists, you need to keep abreast of new information. Twitter is seen by some to be the future of social science – it is used by researchers, academics and other social scientists alike to share news and information as well as discuss issues. I would advise that you create yourselves Twitter accounts as soon as possible and follow the below users for information and news:

**@PsychToday (Psychology Today magazine)**

**@tutor2uPsych (Tutor2U's Psychology feed)**

**@ResearchDigest (the British Psychological Society's Research feed)**

**@Psychmag (The Psychologist magazine)**

#### **Task Four – Researching Psychological Disorders**

Your final task is to explore some psychology in the real world by looking at two of the following disorders. For each, you should create a short fact-file: what is the disorder? What are the psychological causes? How do psychologists treat this disorder? Choose two to complete, but if you like, you can complete more! The disorders are:

- Depression
- Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder (OCD)
- Dissociative Identity Disorder (DID)
- Anorexia Nervosa
- Schizophrenia
- Agoraphobia
- Antisocial Personality Disorder (APD)
- Obesity