



# Year 11 Preparation for Study at Loreto College

## SUBJECT

Psychology



## QUALIFICATION

A Level (AQA)



## PREPARATION TASKS



Psychology is the scientific study of the mind and behaviour. You will study a range of topics in psychology but there are key themes and terms that will help you across all of the topics of psychology. It will help you to research these key terms and produce a mind map which gives a definition of each: Validity / Reliability / Experiment / Mundane Realism / Determinism / Reductionism / Ethical Issues / Gender Bias / Cultural Bias / Nature and nurture

Psychology also requires some mathematical and scientific skill. You will be familiar with many of the mathematical and scientific concepts involved from GCSE Maths and Science. It will be helpful for you to refresh yourself with some of these concepts. In a different colour, add to your mind map what you know about:

Mean / Median / Mode / Range / Standard deviation / Bar chart / Histogram / Percentage / Independent Variable / Dependent Variable / Hypothesis

## RESEARCH



If you would like to carry out some independent research, one of the topics covered in psychology is psychopathology - this is the study of psychological disorders. Choose one of the psychological disorders named: **Phobias or Obsessive Compulsive Disorder or Schizophrenia**

- Research what the clinical characteristics of this disorder are
- One or more psychological explanations for what causes this disorder
- One or more therapies that are used to treat this disorder.

Create a leaflet that you could give someone to inform them about your chosen disorder.

## RECOMMENDED READING



- AQA Psychology for A Level Year 1 and AS By Cara Flanagan and Dave Berry and Matt Jarvis
- The Little Book of Psychology by Emily Rolls and Caroline Riggs
- The Psychology Book by Nigel Benson and Catherine Collins
- The Skeleton Cupboard By Tanya Byron
- Genie: A Scientific Tragedy by Russ Wymer
- The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas by John Boyne
- The Lucifer Effect by Philip Zimbardo

## RECOMMENDED WEBSITES



[Massolit - Psychology](#)

[Psychology4A.com](#)

[The British Psychological Society](#)

**Alternatively watch a film:**

- Good Will Hunting
- Momento
- Rain Man

**This research work is really useful to do, as it will help you to explore your options for college study. Please be aware that agreed courses will be finalised at enrolment after students have been awarded their GCSE results.**