



THE  
WORTHGATE SCHOOL  
CANTERBURY

# COURSE DESCRIPTOR

## IBDP PSYCHOLOGY

### SUBJECT OVERVIEW

Have you ever wondered why some people are frightened of snakes and other people think they are cuddly? Why do some people suffer from stress and mental illness and others don't? Are you interested in finding out what makes people 'tick'? If so, then Psychology is the subject for you. It is a science with cutting edge research that has real world application to everyday issues in life.

### PRIOR LEARNING REQUIRED

An interest in and curiosity about human behaviour

GCSE or equivalent

IELTS 5.5 or equivalent

### EXAM BOARD

IBDP

### COURSE CONTENT

Year 1	Year 2
<b>Core component 1</b> – Biological approach to understanding behaviour	<b>Core component 3</b> – Socio-cultural approach to understanding behaviour
<b>Core component 2</b> – Cognitive approach to understanding behaviour	<b>Optional Components – one for SL and two for HL:</b> Abnormal psychology

	Developmental psychology Health psychology Psychology of human relationships
--	--

## ASSESSMENT

Formal internal assessments take place once every half term and homework is set on a regular basis.

Grades are determined by four components: three examined modules and an Experimental Study (or Non-Examined Assessment). Final examinations take place in May at the end of the 2-year course.

An end of year exam must be passed for entry to year 2 and a mock exam must be passed for entry into the public exams.

Paper	Length of paper	Weighting
1. Core Components	49 marks 2 hours written paper	40% HL 50% SL
2. Optional Components	44 marks 2 hours written paper	20% HL 25% SL
3. Core Components	24 marks 1 hour written paper	20% HL
4. Experimental Study	22 marks Between 1,800 and 2,200 words (non-exam assessment)	20% HL 25% SL

## TEXTBOOKS/REVISION GUIDES

Title	ISBN	Author
-------	------	--------





THE  
WORTHGATE SCHOOL  
CANTERBURY

Psychology (Oxford IB Diploma Programme)	978-0198398110	Alexej Popov, Lee Parker, Darren Seath
--	----------------	--

Summaries of each unit, your notes and past examination papers will be your major source of revision.

### HIGHER EDUCATION PATHWAYS

Psychology will enhance your skills in analysis and evaluation, essay writing and presentation work, and application of knowledge to current events, which are highly valued by universities and employers. Psychology is popular with students who wish to study Sociology, Criminology, and Behavioural Sciences at university and/or enter careers in Clinical Psychology and counselling, Marketing, Forensic Psychology, or Experimental Psychology.

Previous Psychology students have gained acceptance in undergraduate courses at prestigious Russell group universities.

### COMPLEMENTARY SUBJECTS OF STUDY

Sociology, History

### CURRICULUM DIRECTOR

Dr Francesco Sacco