**Name of Subject:** Psychology

**Stage:** 2

**General information:** Psychology sits at the crossroads between the life sciences and the humanities. The subject aims to describe and explain both the universality of human experience, and individual and cultural diversity. It does this through the systematic study of behaviour, the processes that underlie it, and the factors that influence it. Through such study, students can come to better understand themselves and their social worlds. Psychology also addresses the ways in which behaviour can be changed. The ethics of research and intervention are therefore an integral aspect of psychology. The study of psychology builds on the scientific method by involving students in the collection and analysis of qualitative and quantitative data. By emphasising evidence-based procedures (that is, observation, experimentation, and experience), this subject allows students to develop useful skills in analytical and critical thinking, and in making inferences.

**Content:** The following topics are studied throughout the year *Introduction to Psychology, Social Cognition, Learning, Personality, Altered States of Awareness and Healthy Minds.*

**Assessments:**
- 1500 word Group Investigation and a 1500 word Individual Investigation (30% total)
- 45 minute Test for each topic studied (40% total)
- 2 hour Examination (30%)

**Special Information:** Nil

**Prerequisites:** Nil

**Preferred prerequisites:** No previous experience in Psychology at Stage 1 is required; however it would be beneficial to have studied and passed at least one semester of Stage 1 Psychology. If Psychology was not studied at Stage 1, it would also be beneficial to have studied and passed at least one Science subject at Stage 1.