

St Paul's Catholic School and Sixth Form



Transition Work for Sixth Form

"Let your light shine before others." – Matthew 5:16
Sixth Form, the St Paul's way — with Christ at the heart of it all.

AQA Psychology at St Paul's Catholic School and Sixth Form

The purpose of completing the task below....

After completing the task, you teacher will be able to....

Due date: Monday 1st September 2025

Task 1

Task 1 will include

Exploring **key psychological approaches** will offer valuable insights into how psychologists explain and investigate different types of behaviour.

Task 2

In Task 2 you are expected to

Examine the variety of **research methods** employed by psychologists, considering their respective strengths and limitations.

Task 3

Finally in Task 3, Briefly define **key concepts from the Issues and Debates** topics to develop a strong foundation for effective psychological evaluation of theories and research.

Specification: AQA 7181 A-level Psychology

Links to websites: [Study Notes](#) | [Reference Library](#) | [Psychology](#) | [tutor2u](#)

[AQA A-level Psychology Revision - PMT](#)

[Free Resources — ...](#)

[Psych Boost](#)

[AQA Psychology A Level Revision Notes - Psychology A Level](#)

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Task

1

Task 1 will include

Key approaches – Different approaches in Psychology were once called 'schools of thought'. Each hold KEY assumptions about the causes of behaviour and use a common set of concepts when giving an explanation. You need to create an **A4 poster** for each approach including their *key assumptions, strengths, weaknesses, concepts, relevant research & key Psychologists*.

Please make it colourful, stimulating, and engaging (use images) ...they will be judged & may be used for display! Important -You will need to file the posters as they will be crucial to your understanding of the course and formulate year 1 & year 2 program of study.

1. [Biological approach](#)
2. [Psychodynamic approach](#)
3. [Learning approaches](#)
4. [Humanistic approach](#)
5. [Cognitive approach](#)

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Task

2

In Task 2 you are expected to

A good way to begin your understanding of the key topic area of **Research methods** is to explore the number of different and varying methods employed by psychologists to conduct research.

Provide A4 summary pages outlining **key features** for each of the following research methods that are used in Psychology; a) Experiments b) Observational techniques c) Interviews d) Questionnaires e) Correlation f) Case studies.

- You **MUST** also include **2 advantages and disadvantages** of each method **and** provide an **example research** study illustrating the use each of the methods from the world of Psychology in your summary page for each method. 😊

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Task

3

Finally in Task 3,

As Psychologists it is important to consider the different **issues and debates** that might affect theory and research. Past psychological research has been argued to be sexist and culturally discriminative. But has modern day psychology tried to address this? We will be looking at issues and debates throughout the A-level course, as it is an integral part of evaluation.

Briefly define the following key terms below.

Universality	Gender Bias	Androcentrism	Alpha Bias
Beta Bias	Culture Bias	Ethnocentrism	Cultural Relativism
Free Will	Determinism	Hard Determinism	Soft Determinism
Nature	Nurture	Ethics	Heredity
Biological Determinism	Environmental Determinism	Psychic Determinism	Social Sensitivity
Environment	Interactionist Approach	Holism	Reductionism
Biological Reductionism	Environmental Reductionism	Idiographic	Nomothetic