



# Applied Psychology

## BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate

**Awarding Body:** Edexcel

**Course Length:** 2 years BTEC Level 3 National  
Extended Certificate

**Entry Requirements:** 32 – 35 Points



### This course will cover:

#### Unit 1 – Psychological Approaches and Applications

There are many ways to explain or understand human behaviour in order to treat it. This unit investigates how four of the main approaches in psychology help us do this from their different perspectives: Cognitive, Social, Learning and Biological. Key concepts and relevant key studies will also be discussed and evaluated.

#### Unit 2 – Conducting Psychological Research

Psychological research is not based on opinion and follows a rigorous scientific process. This unit identifies, analyses and applies the importance of this process.

#### Unit 3 – Health Psychology

Health psychologists are interested in how psychological and physiological factors affect health and ill health. This unit includes approaches, theories and studies that explore the reasons why individuals engage in specific behaviours such as addiction and why individuals may experience high levels of stress and the impact this has on health.

#### Unit 4 – Criminal and Forensic Psychology

This unit looks at a number of different explanations for criminal behaviour, linked to the approaches from unit 1, and analyse the best way to treat criminal behaviour; punishment or modification? Students will also learn about different methods of creating an offender profile and will create their own as part of the final assignment.

### Assessment Method:

4 units, of which 3 are mandatory and 2 are external. Mandatory content (83%). External assessment (58%).

Each assessment is taken under specified conditions, then marked by Pearson and a grade awarded. Learners are permitted to resit external assessments during their programme.

Units are assessed using a grading scale of Distinction (D), Merit (M), Pass (P).

### This course is ideally suited to...

...post-16 learners wanting to continue their education through applied learning, and who aim to progress to HE and/or employment, possibly in psychology.

Those learners with an interest in psychology will benefit from opportunities for deep learning where they are able to make connections among units and select areas of interest for detailed study. BTEC Nationals provide a vocational context in which learners can develop the knowledge and skills required for particular degree courses, including: reading technical texts, effective writing, analytical skills, creative development, and preparation for assessment methods used in a degree.

### Course contact:

**Mrs Peebles**

peebles.r@thecoleshillschool.org