Course:	Psychology
Specification and code:	AQA spec A (7181, 7182)
Exam Board website:	AQA AS and A-level Psychology Specification at a glance
Course outline:	You will study a variety of topics within psychology. Psychology is the 'scientific study of the mind and behaviour', and the A Level offers an introduction to some 'core' areas of the discipline. In yr 1 we look at: Social Influence, Attachment, Memory, Psychopathology. We also cover different Approaches within psychology and common Issues & Debates that arise. In both yr 1 & yr 2 we study Research Methods or how psychologists gather evidence to test their theories. In yr 2 we also look at 3 additional areas, these have included Forensic psychology, Schizophrenia, Cognition & Development and Gender. A Level Psychology involves studying a wide range of topic areas, so there is a lot of information to absorb. Because the topics Psychologists study are complex, it is common to find different explanations of psychological phenomena, such as attachment. An important skill you will learn is how to evaluate conflicting theories about the topics you cover, and the studies that support, or challenge, them.
Background reading:	There is no recommended reading for this subject. For general interest you could listen to podcasts such as All in the mind (BBC sounds), but we require no background reading
Summer Task:	Here are 5 famous psychologists, Mary Ainsworth, Elizabeth Loftus, Aaron Beck ,Alan Baddeley and Stanley Milgram. Choose 2, look them up and see what they did.