

**Ringwood Secondary College**  
**2017 Course Planning Document**  
**VCE Unit 1 Psychology**

### **Time Allocation**

This unit of work will consist of approximately 100 hours of which at least 50 hours will be class time.

**To complete this unit of work satisfactorily, students must complete each of the following learning outcomes.**

### **Learning Outcomes**

#### **Outcome 1**

On completion of this unit the student should be able to describe how understanding of brain structure and function has changed over time, explain how different areas of the brain coordinate different functions, and explain how brain plasticity and brain damage can change psychological functioning.

#### **Outcome 2**

On completion of this unit the student should be able to identify the varying influences of nature and nurture on a person's psychological development, and explain different factors that may lead to typical or atypical psychological development.

#### **Outcome 3**

On completion of this unit the student should be able to investigate and communicate a substantiated response to a question related to brain function and/or development, including reference to at least two contemporary psychological studies and/or research techniques.

### **Assessment Tasks**

#### **1. Test – Brain**

The student is required to complete a test covering brain structure and function.

**Weighting:** This task is worth 20% of the overall grade **Time allocated to task:** 1 period

**Due:** Term 1, Week 6

#### **2. ERA – Piaget**

The student is to conduct an investigation on Piaget's cognitive development theory in children and write a research report.

**Weighting:** This task is worth 20% of the overall grade **Time allocated to task:** 3 periods

**Due:** Term 1, Week 3

#### **3. Research Investigation**

A report of an investigation into brain function and/or development that can be presented in various formats, for example digital presentation, oral presentation, or written report.

**Weighting:** This task is worth 20% of the overall grade **Time allocated to task:** 9 periods

**Due:** Term 2, Week 4, 5 and 6

#### **4. Semester Examination**

The student is required to apply knowledge and understanding of Psychology to complete the semester exam.

**Weighting:** This task is worth 40% of the overall grade **Time allocated to task:** 90 minutes

**Due:** Term 2, Week 8