

Psychology



at RHB Sixth Form

Psychology is the scientific study of *human behaviour* and the *mind*. The aim of the Psychology course is to *encourage* students to develop a sense of *wonder* about how the behaviour of other people can be explained using psychological theories. Students will naturally become *curious* about themselves and the world they live in.

"I love how diverse and multifaceted psychology is and how it links to all aspects of life. I've discovered lots of subtle ways in which psychology influences our relationships, everyday actions, prejudices, and habits."

CURRENT STUDENT

COURSE OUTLINE

Psychology students will gain a knowledge and understanding of scientific methods and the theoretical underpinnings of the research. Students will develop their critical thinking skills by learning to analyse, interpret and evaluate scientific information gained from research.

Practical skills will be developed when students design and conduct their own research, find relevant sources to support their hypotheses, and present their findings in a report format. Students will become proficient at presenting their findings using descriptive and inferential statistics.

Year 1

- Social influence (e.g. conformity and obedience).
- Memory (e.g. models of memory, explanations for forgetting).
- Attachment (e.g. explanations of attachment).
- Biopsychology (e.g. the nervous system and the function of the endocrine system).
- Psychopathology (e.g. explanations and treatments of phobias and depression).
- Approaches in Psychology.
- Research methods, scientific processes, and techniques for data handling and analysis.

Year 2

- Biopsychology (e.g. biological rhythms, localisation of function of the brain).
- Issues and debates in Psychology (e.g. gender and culture, free will and determinism, the ethical implications of research).
- Inferential statistics.
- Relationships (e.g. virtual relationships in social media, theories of romantic relationships).
- Eating behaviour (e.g. biological and psychological explanations of anorexia nervosa and obesity).
- Forensic Psychology (e.g. biological explanations of offender behaviour, offender profiling).

IS THIS THE RIGHT COURSE FOR ME?

The course requires curiosity, an interest in human behaviour and a desire to explore and understand the complexities of the mind. To succeed students should

have strong Maths and English skills. You will need to possess critical thinking skills to analyse, interpret and evaluate scientific research, to inform logical written arguments. Research skills will be needed when students design and conduct their own research.

WHERE COULD THIS COURSE TAKE ME?

Further Education

Previous students have progressed to study a degree in Psychology, Applied psychology and Business management, Psychological and behavioural studies and Criminology and Forensic studies.

Careers

Studying Psychology will benefit you if you choose a profession in Teaching, Police, Law, Forensics, Healthcare and Social services.

ENRICHMENT

Psychology students benefit from a rich programme of enrichment activities that bring psychological theory to life and provide valuable insight into future career pathways.

Recent highlights include an immersive educational visit to Shepton Mallet Prison where they explored the historic site, walked the corridors once patrolled by officers and occupied by inmates, visited original prison cells and heard fascinating accounts of past punishments.

This academic year, students will also have the opportunity to hear from an Assistant Psychologist working alongside clinical psychologists and neuropsychologists. Through this guest speaker event, students will gain first-hand insight into careers in psychology, explore the cognitive assessments used with patients, and learn about rehabilitation programmes designed to support individuals following injury or illness.

HEAD OF SUBJECT

Stephanie Looker

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