



PSYCHOLOGY LEARNING JOURNEY



Where will studying Psychology at Highsted take you....?!



The Psychology department provides a stimulating and challenging learning experience for our students

The final set of topics require the application of research methods skills and knowledge to the evaluation of a wide range of studies

Examination Preparation
Revising content and refining technique

Paper 1
Social Influence, Memory, Attachment, Psychopathology


Paper 2
Approaches, Biopsychology, Research Methods

Paper 3
Issues and Debates, Schizophrenia, Cognition and Development, Aggression

In the psychology department you learn about the wide range of factors that contribute to human behaviour, from our genes and biochemistry to the environment that we live in

Aggression
What are the biological and social factors that contribute to aggressive behaviour? How can aggression within prisons be explained? Does media violence lead to increased aggression?

Cognition and Development
How does cognitive ability develop in childhood? When do we develop a theory of mind, and what role might this play in Autism? Is there a biological element to our social cognitions?




In the Psychology department you will gain an understanding of the main approaches within psychology, and how they can be applied to a range of disorders and therapies

By the end of Year 12 you will have covered the research methods content and skills that are required for the course

Year 13 Summer term

Aggression
What are the biological and social factors that contribute to aggressive behaviour? How can aggression within prisons be explained? Does media violence lead to increased aggression?

Cognition and Development
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Year 13 Spring Term

Issues and Debates
Where do you stand on the nature/nurture, holism/reductionism, free will/determinism debates?

Biopsychology
How does our biology control our behaviour? How do brain scans work? Do different parts of the brain have specific functions?

Schizophrenia
What is schizophrenia and what are the problems with diagnosis? How does it develop biologically and psychologically? What biological and psychological therapies are available?

In the psychology department you will gain an appreciation of the various methodologies that are applied in psychological research and the ways in which data can be summarised and analysed




In the psychology department you will gain an insight into the application of psychological research to everyday life, including how to use it to enhance your learning!

The second pair of topics introduce you to alternative research methods in psychology such as observations, questionnaires and interviews

Year 12 Summer Term

Research Methods
What are the main research methods employed by psychologists? How do you choose which approach to use? How do you summarise and analyse data?


Approaches
What are the main approaches in psychology? How do they explain behaviour? What are their relative strengths and limitations?

Year 12 Autumn Term

Attachment
How do attachments form and why are they needed? What happens if an attachment is broken or never formed? Does our childhood impact our adult relationships?

Psychopathology
How do you decide what is normal/abnormal? How do the different approaches in Psychology explain conditions such as phobias, depression and OCD? How can they be treated?

In the psychology department we have a range of cross-curricular links, including numeracy, literacy, biology and sociology!



Research Methods: The first two topics provide you with an understanding of the Experimental Method in psychology

Memory
How does our memory work? How much can it store and for how long? Why do we forget things? How reliable is eye-witness testimony?

Social Influence
Why do people conform and obey? Does personality type play a role in this? How does a minority influence the majority?

Introduction to Psychology.
Is Psychology for me? What does the course involve? How are we assessed?