



Psychology – information leaflet

Subject Lead: Mrs Gilpin

Additional Teachers: Mrs Gallagher and Mrs Dyer

ENTRY REQUIREMENT

GCSE Grade 6 or above in combined science or Grade 6 or above in Biology and Grade 6 or above in English and Maths. [On occasion we will make exceptions for students entered for Foundation Maths at GCSE with a cap of Grade 5 – this can be discussed with Mrs Gallagher]

INTRODUCTION

- Psychology is the science of human mind and behaviour
- In Y12, students will develop a broad knowledge and understanding of key aspects of the core areas within Psychology.
- In Y13, students will apply this knowledge to areas including Criminal and Clinical Psychology.

COURSE CONTENT

In Year 12 students will study four topics that cover the foundations of psychology:

1. **Social Approach:** students will learn about why we may blindly obey an order from an authority figure and how prejudice arises and may be reduced.
2. **Cognitive Approach:** students will investigate how we remember and why we forget, including influences on the accuracy of eye-witness testimony.
3. **Biological Approach:** students will study the biological factors that affect the development of aggression.
4. **Learning Approach:** students will examine how reinforcement and punishment shape our behaviour, including the development of phobias.

In Year 13 students will study applications of psychology and learn to use their psychological knowledge to understand issues and debates in society:

5. **Clinical Psychology:** students will learn about diagnosing abnormality, understanding schizophrenia & unipolar depression and will learn about different treatments for psychological disorders.
6. **Criminological Psychology:** Students will understand influences on jury decision making, eye-witness testimony and the possible causes and treatments of crime.
7. **Issues and Debates:** students will draw on their knowledge from all sections of the A Level to discuss possible explanations for behaviour or events in society.

Across both years there is an emphasis on how science works, including statistical analysis and research methods.

ASSESSMENT, RESULTS and POST-18

The course is assessed through three written exams in Y13. There is no coursework. The Psychology Department at Roundwood has a superb track record of results, sitting within the top 25% value added within the country.

Psychology is a science, highly regarded by many top universities for a variety of courses.