



Ripon Grammar School

Dear Student

Choosing Psychology means choosing a subject that will enrich your life, no matter which career path you pursue. Psychology will help you understand and communicate with those around you more effectively than ever before. It will also teach you to question the 'facts' and 'research' you encounter, developing your ability to spot bias, flaws in data, and assumptions in arguments.

As mental health becomes an increasingly important topic in our society, studying Psychology means equipping yourself to support others. In your life, you are likely to know people who currently struggle—or may one day struggle—with their mental health. By choosing to study Psychology, you are choosing to better understand them and, in doing so, to support your wider community.

We look forward to welcoming you in September and supporting you as you master this truly multidisciplinary and valuable subject.

Psychology is a content-rich course in which we study the theories and research of others. You will need to develop specific subject **terminology** to express key concepts clearly. One of the best ways to prepare for A Level study is to begin building a glossary of the most commonly used terms. This forms the basis of your [summer transition work](#). If you complete this task with care and dedication, you will find the first few weeks of Year 12 much more manageable.

It would also be an excellent idea to complete this free online course (3–6 hours) which provides a general introduction to A Level Psychology and covers some of the main approaches: [Transition to AQA A-Level Psychology](#)

Additionally, you might enjoy watching documentaries related to Psychology—for example, those by Stacey Dooley or Louis Theroux—and listening to Psychology podcasts such as All in the Mind or Mind Changers.

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs Dodd at doddm@ripongrammar.com

Kind regards,
Mrs Dodd
Head of Psychology

Founded in Saxon Times, re-founded in 1555

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