Valentines High School – Curriculum

"In harmony achieving excellence"

Department Curriculum Intent

Psychology curriculum intent is to equip students with the skills and knowledge required to achieve the best outcomes and develop the necessary experiences to progress onto the next stage of their life.

In Psychology the aim is for students to become reflective, independent learners, develop research skills and be critical thinkers. This will not only enable them to succeed at A-levels and advance to university but learn to utilise valuable life skills.

In considering our curriculum*, we take into account the context of students at VHS:

- The requirements of Universities
- The job market in Redbridge, London and beyond
- Student safety, welfare and PSHCE including an adaptive/reflective curriculum as a result of school and contextual concerns.
- British Values and Equality
- The development of character and skills that are important for life

*The curriculum includes all organised/guided experiences for students including:

Assemblies
Extracurricular Clubs
Interventions
PSHCE
Structured Lessons
Trips
Tutor Time
Speakers
Workshops
Cultural and social capital opportunities

At Valentines we believe it is important that we develop learners who are:

- Resilient
- Aspirational
- Kind
- Respectful

Valentines Core Values

Respect	Kindness	Resilience	Aspiration
We value every voice, celebrate difference and promote fairness.	We act with empathy, knowing our words and actions matter.	We face challenges with courage, learn from setbacks and grow stronger.	We aim high, work hard, and strive to be our best—for ourselves and others.

Years 12 - 13

Psychology is the scientific study of mind and behaviour. Embarking on a Psychology course will empower our students to become adept at assimilating and analysing information from various sources. To support their endeavours students are provided with opportunities to access different resources. For example, podcasts, e-conferences, peer-reviewed articles, documentaries, day visits, reading lists and psychology magazines. It is pertinent for students to be aware of the reliability and validity of different methodologies used in Psychology and measure the value of information derived from using such sources. This will stand them in good stead transferring their knowledge and experience beyond the curriculum where we live in an age of easy to access information. With this in mind students, learn to critically, view the importance of evidence and develop the capability to evaluate research, data and information.

Ultimately utilising skills from these learning experiences will better equip students to apply their leaning to new and novel situations. Our discussions of mental illness are very much orientated towards the positive changes that formal study can bring about. Furthermore, we examine models of behaviour, theories and psychological perspectives with a focus on assessing the applicability to today's society.

Our study of Psychology shines a light on our own behaviour and the behaviour of others. It brings about empathy, tolerance and an appreciation of how interconnected and complex our lives as humans has become. Students will leave the course with skills that enable them to make informed evidence based judgements about the world around them.

The Valentines Way

Our School Vision

"At Valentines High School, we strive to ensure that all our students are happy, open-minded and leave school with meaningful qualifications."

In Harmony

Achieving Excellence