

## How do students access Psychological support?

- Parents, carers and Heathermount staff can make a request to the Therapy Team.
- Students may enquire through their Class Teacher or the Therapy Team.
- A 'flagging' system is in place whereby if a student reaches the 10% threshold for one of the recorded behaviours in any one month, they are flagged to the Therapy Team. The Therapy Team will meet with key staff to discuss support strategies. Following a discussion with all staff the support strategies will be put in place. The effectiveness of these strategies are regularly reviewed by the Therapy Team.

For further information please contact:

Ruth Bovill  
Head Teacher  
Heathermount School  
Devenish Road  
Ascot  
Berkshire  
SL5 9PG  
01344 875101



Leaflet produced by Rebecca Dougall, Assistant Psychologist.

Approved by Ruth Bovill, Head Teacher.



# Psychology in Education



## What is Psychology?

Psychology is the scientific study of human mind and behaviour.

## What is Educational Psychology?

*"Educational psychology is concerned with children and young people in educational and early years settings. Educational psychologists tackle challenges such as learning difficulties, social and emotional problems, issues around disability as well as more complex developmental disorders. They work in a variety of ways including observations, interviews and assessments and offer consultation, advice and support to teachers, parents, the wider community as well as the young people concerned. They research innovative ways of helping vulnerable young people and often train teachers, learning support assistants and others working with children."* (The British Psychological Society, 2014)

## Educational Psychology at Heathermount

At Heathermount we have a Therapy Team, which consists of an Educational Psychologist, an Assistant Educational Psychologist, a Speech and Language Therapist, an Art Therapist and an Occupational Therapist.

## How does Psychology help our students?

Many students at Heathermount can have difficulty understanding and controlling their behaviour. It is our aim to help them to recognise their emotions and develop new strategies to cope with these.

All behaviour is a form of communication and at Heathermount we use a multi element model to explore behaviour issues. We do not just look at the behaviour, but we try to understand what the behaviour is trying to communicate to us.

Some of our students have Autism Support Plans (behaviour and learning focus), which outline areas of behavioural difficulty and suggest support strategies.

The support strategies aim to enhance and promote emotional well being, so students are more able to learn and engage positively in school life.

The whole staff group are involved in the formulation of the Autism Support Plans. Full staff meetings are held, where all staff are able to share their thoughts and observations.

We also have a behaviour database where staff can record student's challenging or disruptive behaviour. Monthly analysis is run and a behavior report is collated and shared with all staff, the Senior Leadership Team and the School Governors.

The Therapy Team will work with other professionals, key staff and contribute to meetings and reviews.

We promote positive behaviour at Heathermount. A reward system is in place which helps to promote and reward all positive behaviour.

Where it is felt appropriate, 1:1 sessions can be timetabled for students to have with a member of the Therapy team.

The Therapy team can also facilitate groups sessions where required.