



Thriving
Minds[™]

Intermediate Stretch and Challenge

Age 12–14

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www.thrivingminds.org



Academy Conferences PTY

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9:00 **Arrival**

9:15 **Welcome**

9:30 **Session 1: An Introduction to Quantum Mechanics**

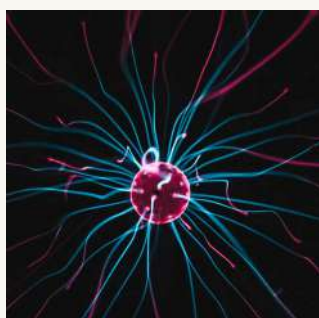
All matter has a quantum level. Starting with the atom this session will take students down into the quantum world. Wave/particle duality and the double slit experiment will be explained as well as non-locality, superposition and quantum entanglement. Probability rules and the thought experiment of Schrödinger's cat will also be explored so that students grasp the basic findings of life at the quantum level.

10:15 **Break**

10:30 **Session 2: Guided Community of Inquiry. Celery Munchers vs Steak Stokers. Is Diet a free choice?**

Are you a herbivore or an omnivore, or maybe a carnivore (?!) and it is a free choice? While Descartes did not argue, 'I think, therefore I am vegetarian,' others do, so, what are the arguments for vegetarianism and is it a free choice? Eastern traditions, such as Buddhism and Hinduism, have a long history of vegetarianism, with up to 85% of the people in India practicing vegetarianism. Modern day 'Vegetarian Philosophy' tends to argue that there are 'consumption ethics' now that there are readily available alternatives to meat. But what do you think? Members of the team are encouraged to make quality contributions, but also to help others to contribute. There will be a member of staff facilitating the discussion before a shared plenary. Students will be numbered at the start of the day and their number will be their group number for this session. When the students return from break they will be asked to sit in their numbered groups, not with their own school, in order to mix the age groups and schools. The group will elect a spokesperson to feed back their conclusions and ideas. 10.30–10.45 introduction to the task. 10.45–11.15 groups on task. 11.15–11.45 group feedback. 11.45–12.00 final questions. All attendant staff will be appointed to a group and will need to help and encourage the discussion without leading it.

12:00 **Lunch**





12:45	Session 3: Justice Truth and Beauty	Punishment is widely accepted and practiced to achieve 'justice'. Children, adults, institutions and even whole countries can be punished in the name of 'justice'. But what is justice and does it exist? This session will explore the difficulties of achieving agreement about justice and ask what is the point of punishment, and what is it supposed to achieve? Contemporary examples will be used to illuminate the complexity of the philosophical issues and how we think about other areas of human knowledge, such as beauty mathematics and art.
13:30	Break	
13:35	Session 4: Debate: This house Believes that Freewill is an Illusion	Are we the product of our genetics, our upbringing and the things that have happened to us along the way, or can we steer our own path? Students will experience a live debate and be encouraged to contribute and to vote. This is a vibrant session and gives an opportunity for the development of a quite different set of analytical and evaluative skills. The debate will conclude with a vote.
14:30	Closing Comments	

Additional Detail

Students should be in school uniform. Timings may vary slightly. All bookings are made by the school and not by individual participants.

Bookings are taken online at www.thrivingminds.org. From the homepage select the **Conference** tab and select **UK Intermediate students tab**. Fill in the booking form and select the venue of your choice. Please take care to select the Intermediate Gifted programme.

You will be given the choice to pay online (recommended) or to be invoiced. Tickets are not issued. Students need to bring refreshments and drinks for the day. Staff will be provided with morning tea and lunch. The events cost £35 per student and there is a free staff place for each group of 12 students. All bookings will attract this fixed fee.

Bookings are not confirmed until payment is received.



Conference Dates



Altrincham

NORTH CESTRIAN SCHOOL
GREATER MANCHESTER

Tuesday 7 March
Intermediate Stretch
and Challenge



Caterham

WOLDINGHAM SCHOOL
SURREY

Monday 13 March
Intermediate Stretch
and Challenge



Crawley

ORIEL HIGH SCHOOL
EAST SUSSEX

Friday 17 March
Intermediate Stretch
and Challenge



Redditch

ARROW VALE SECONDARY SCHOOL
WORCESTERSHIRE

Thursday 23 March
Intermediate Stretch
and Challenge



Cobham

NOTRE DAME SCHOOL
SURREY

Thursday 20 April
Intermediate Stretch
and Challenge



Upper Dicker, Wealden

BEDES SENIOR SCHOOL
EAST SUSSEX

Monday 24 April
Intermediate Stretch
and Challenge



Chester

CHESTER SCHOOLS
TOGETHER

Tuesday 20 June
Intermediate Stretch
and Challenge



Hillingdon

BISHOPSALT SCHOOL
MIDDLESEX

Tuesday 10 October
Intermediate Stretch
and Challenge



Barnstaple

WEST BUCKLAND SCHOOL
DEVON

Thursday 12 October
Intermediate Stretch
and Challenge



Perry Barr

BROADWAY ACADEMY TRUST
BIRMINGHAM

Wednesday 18 October
Intermediate Stretch
and Challenge



Available Conference Dates

Thu 15 June
Mon 19 June
Wed 21 June
Fri 23 June

Additional dates available on request

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