



BRITISH  
PHARMACOLOGICAL  
SOCIETY

# Helping your students unlock their potential

If your students are interested in health and medicine, or simply have a passion for science and want to know where it can lead them, the British Pharmacological Society can support you with useful information to share with them.

## What is pharmacology?

Pharmacology is a branch of science concerned with medicines and their effects. Pharmacologists are crucial in developing safe and effective drugs, such as painkillers and antibiotics. They also carry out vital research that shapes our understanding of biological responses to drugs.

Pharmacology lies at the heart of biomedical science, linking together chemistry, physiology, and pathology.



# What is the difference between pharmacology and pharmacy?



A pharmacist is a licensed health professional who prepares, dispenses, and advises on medicinal drugs.

A pharmacologist is a scientist or medical doctor that studies medicines and researches new drugs.

## Who can study pharmacology?

Anyone! If your students enjoy science and are interested in learning about how medicines are used, how they can improve or harm human health, and how we can create new medicines, pharmacology might be for them.

Students hoping to pursue a career in pharmacology will need a passion for science and to perform well in their GCSEs, with particularly strong grades in science subjects. To study for a degree in pharmacology, students will need to meet the entry criteria for their preferred university. Most require the equivalent of two science A-levels or one science A-level and Maths A-level. However, each university has their own entry requirements for a pharmacology degree, so students should check the entry requirements of their desired university.

## What careers can pharmacology lead to?

Pharmacology career options are varied, rewarding, and allow students to make a direct contribution to medicine and public health. To explore some of the career paths open to your students, visit [bps.ac.uk/whatnext](https://bps.ac.uk/whatnext)

It is a great option for students with an interest in science, health or medicine. Training as a pharmacologist will equip your students with a wide range of transferable skills for career paths that can take them beyond research or medicine.

Find out more at [bps.ac.uk/careers](https://bps.ac.uk/careers)

