

## Professor Ian Apperly BA PhD

Professor of cognition and development  
Director of Research for the School of Psychology

[School of Psychology \(/schools/psychology/index.aspx\)](/schools/psychology/index.aspx)

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### About

Ian Apperly is an experimental psychologist, and his main research interest is in “mindreading” – the ability to take other people’s perspectives. He is the author of a recent book entitled “Mindreaders: The cognitive basis of theory of mind”.

### Qualifications

- BA, University of Cambridge
- Ph.D., University of Birmingham

### Biography

Ian Apperly attended Ivybridge Community College in Devon, studied Natural Sciences at St John’s College, Cambridge, and came to Birmingham in 1995 to study for his Ph.D. with Liz Robinson.

### Teaching

His research interests inform Ian Apperly’s teaching, which includes a Second Year module on Cognitive Development, and part of a Final Year module on Higher Cognitive Functions.

### Postgraduate supervision

PhD students in the lab work on all topics related to Ian Apperly’s research interests, and students interested in joining the lab should email Ian in the first instance. Further information about current and past PhD students is available here: <http://www.ianapperly.eclipse.co.uk/PhD.htm> (<http://www.ianapperly.eclipse.co.uk/PhD.htm>)

### Research

The research focus of Ian Apperly’s group is on the processes involved in “higher cognitive functions”, such as mindreading, self-control and mental flexibility. The work of students and postdocs in the group usually varies in its emphasis on developmental, cognitive or neuroscientific methods, and often involves collaboration with other colleagues in the School of Psychology.

More information can be found here:  
<http://www.ianapperly.eclipse.co.uk/index.htm> (<http://www.ianapperly.eclipse.co.uk/index.htm>)

### Other activities

Ian Apperly has received early career prizes from the British Psychological Society and the Experimental Psychological Society. He is on the editorial board of the journal *Cognition*, is treasurer of the European Society for Philosophy and Psychology, and sits on the Psychology committee of the British Science Association.  
<http://www.ianapperly.eclipse.co.uk/honours.htm> (<http://www.ianapperly.eclipse.co.uk/honours.htm>)

### Publications

Apperly, I.A. (2010). *Mindreaders: the cognitive basis of “theory of mind”*. Hove: Psychology Press / Taylor & Francis Group.

A full list of Ian Apperly’s publications can be found here:  
<http://www.ianapperly.eclipse.co.uk/publications.htm> (<http://www.ianapperly.eclipse.co.uk/publications.htm>)

