

# Biology



## About the course

### Why choose A level Biology?

A Level science provides a unique and well-respected skill set that many universities, apprenticeships and careers value highly. A Level Biology focuses on how the body and other organisms function on a daily basis, as well as considering our past, present and the impact on the future. The Biology course develops numerous skills including: independent study, organisation, prioritisation, team work, comprehension, mathematical, essay writing and many more.

### What will I study?

Year 1 examines topics:

1. Biological molecules
2. Cells
3. Organisms exchange
4. Genetic information

Year 2 examines topics:

5. Energy transfer
6. Organisms responding to change
7. Genetics, populations and ecosystems
8. The control of Gene expression

All of these topics have been studied at a lower level in the GCSE courses (all exam boards), students require a solid understanding of their GCSE topics to allow them to take their Biological understanding to the next level.

### What will I need?

Students are provided with access to an online platform called Kerboodle, this gives students access to a textbook (online) as well as numerous other resources to support their independent learning. They will need stationary plus a scientific calculator and suitable folders to store notes and work.

## Assessment

### 100% Exam (0% Non-exam)

Examined at the end of the two years using three exam papers. The mark from each paper is totalled for a mark out of 260.

**Paper 1:** out of 91 marks and examines content from topics 1-4, plus practical skills (35% of the A level, 2 hours long)

**Paper 2:** out of 91 marks and examines content from topics 5-8, plus practical skills (35% of the A level, 2 hours long)

**Paper 3:** out of 78 marks and examines content from all topics (1-8), plus practical skills. This paper also contains a synoptic essay, worth 25 marks. (30% of the A level, 2 hours long)

## Careers

This course can lead to careers in an enormous variety of areas, including medicine, dentistry, midwifery, nursing, radiography, physiotherapy, pharmacy and other biomedical and healthcare vocations. It can also provide the foundation for the many purely scientific branches of the biological sciences, such as physiology, biochemistry, and pharmacology or more applied fields such as environmental science, food technology, agriculture, ecology, horticulture or forensics. It provides an excellent basis for many sports related degrees and is an essential entry requirement for veterinary medicine or marine biology

## Entry Requirements

6 6 in Combined science or two level 6's in Biology and one other single science (Chemistry or Physics) 5 in maths (higher is preferable but not essential) 5 in either English literature or English Language.

## Find Out More

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