

# Course Information



## A Level Biology

### What is A Level Biology?

#### The Course

The course is divided into a wide range of topics, each covering different key concepts of biology. We will further develop your practical skills and you will complete specific experiments that also help to reinforce your understanding. Your knowledge and understanding of these experiments will be assessed through the written papers.

- Unit 1 Practical Skills
- Unit 2 Foundations in Biology
- Unit 3 Exchange and Transport
- Unit 4 Biodiversity, Evolution and Disease
- Unit 5 Communications, Homeostasis and Energy
- Unit 6 Genetics, Evolution and Ecosystems

### Entry requirements

It is expected that you will have achieved a minimum of a Grade 6 your Science GCSEs. In addition, students will need to be able to communicate effectively and to handle and interpret data. It would therefore be necessary to have a good GCSE grade in Mathematics and English Language.

### Assessment

AS Level	A Level
There will be no formal external examination of the AS year, however, an internal exam will be taken to help judge suitability to progress to A2 biology. The exam at the end of Year 13 will assess knowledge learnt over both years.	<b>Paper 1 - Biological Processes</b> 2 hours 15 minutes Multiple choice and structured questions. 37% of marks (June)
	<b>Paper 2 - Biological diversity</b> 2 hours 15 minutes Structured questions and extended answers 37% of marks (June)
	<b>Paper 3 - Unified Biology</b> 1 hour 30 minutes. Structured questions and extended responses 26% of marks (June)

### Teaching methods

These are varied and will include; practical lab and field work, discussions, self-study, small and large group work, videos and multimedia presentations.

### Expectations

Students are expected to complete approximately four hours of homework per week, which may include completion of exercises and past exam questions, reading to support their learning, producing revision notes.

### Possible Careers

Agriculture, biochemist, biomedical materials, conservation, dentistry, forensic science, forestry, genetics, immunology, marine biology, medicine, molecular biology, nursing, physiotherapy, toxicology and veterinary science. In addition your skills and training will be valued for work in areas unrelated to Biology itself, such as marketing and management.

For more information about the course speak to Dr Coventry, Dr Sheldrick, Dr Barley or Mrs Matthews.