

Biology

A level

Examination Board: AQA

Aims of course:

Learners will develop their interest and enthusiasm for Biology, including developing an interest in further study and careers associated with the subject. The key concepts are studied so that students can demonstrate a deep appreciation of the skills, knowledge and understanding of scientific methods, while considering how society makes decisions about scientific issues and how the sciences contribute to the success of the economy and society.

Programme of study

Level	Module Name	Module Description
Year 1	Biological molecules	Including the chemical structures, properties and uses of biological molecules.
Year 1	Cells	Exploring the differences between all types of eukaryotic and prokaryotic cells and how each organelle helps the cell to control life.
Year 1	Organism exchange	Including biological pathways to explain how materials can be exchanged to aid to the efficiency of reactions.
Year 1	Genetic variation and relationships	Exploring biological diversity and how variations within a species can be caused gene mutations or random factors associated with cell division.
Year 2	Energy transfers in and between organisms	Including an in depth look at the continuous transfer of energy during photosynthesis and respiration.
Year 2	Responding to change	Exploring how internal or external stimulus can control our body systems by using specific nervous or hormonal actions.
Year 2	Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems	Exploring how evolution underpins modern biology and how it can explain how different species have developed over time in different areas of the world.
Year 2	The control of gene expression	Looking at specific gene expression and how humans are learning to control gene expression to alter genomes of organisms.

Approaches to learning:

A variety of approaches are taken to teaching and learning in Biology including opportunities to develop research skills, quizzes, games, and preparing and giving presentations. Studying Biology enables students to develop their problem solving skills as well as promoting team work, logical thinking, time management and organisation. There is also a requirement for practical work which is spread throughout the 2 years.

Who is this course aimed at?

Biologists, who are interested in studying the natural world and all the living things in it, from the largest mammals down to our very own microscopic DNA. Students who also want to understand how animals and organisms work, how we evolved and the things that can make us sick or improve our health.

Minimum entry requirement:

Grade 5 in Mathematics and Science + 3 GCSEs A* - C including English

All subjects will be terminally examined at the end of two years, with internal exams throughout year 1 and 2.

Please note: The course is dependent on numbers registering their interest to study at A Level. The subject will only run if there are sufficient student numbers.