(AQA) - A Level

BIOLOGY

The Biology A Level is designed to give students a real understanding of modern Biology. There is an emphasis on the value of Biology in society and an awareness of advances in technology alongside an understanding of the inter-relationships of all parts of the living world, including ourselves.

FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES

Biology is a good subject to choose if you want a career in health and clinical professions, such as Medicine, Veterinary Science, Physiotherapy, Nursing and Pharmacology. It is also important for careers in forensic science, zoology and marine work.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

GCSE:

6 in GCSE Biology or 6-6 in GCSE Combined Science. In addition, a 5 in GCSE Mathematics is required and a 5 in GCSE English.

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COURSE CONTENT & ASSESSMENT

In the first year you will study four topic areas;

- Biological molecules
- Cells
- The exchange of substances between organisms and the environment
- Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms

In the second year of the course, you will go on to study a further four topic areas which build on the knowledge and understanding developed in year 1;

- Energy transfer between organisms
- Responses of organisms to the internal and external environment
- Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems
- The control of gene expression

Practical work is embedded throughout the units of work and you will complete a minimum of 6 practical activities in each year of the course. These practical activities will develop your skills in following procedures, applying investigative approaches, using a variety of equipment and materials safely, making and recording observations and carrying out research to support your practical work.

EXAMINATIONS Year 12

- **Practical endorsement assessing practical skills in 6 practical activities**

EXAMINATIONS Year 13

- **Practical endorsement assessing practical skills in 6 practical activities**
- **Three 120-minute written examinations at the end of year**