

BIOLOGY A-LEVEL

For more information please see Mrs Sutliff

For whom is this course suitable?

Students studying Biology at advanced level will have achieved at least grade 6/6 in Combined Science. In addition, a grade 5 or higher in maths GCSE is required. Students studying single sciences will have achieved at least a grade 6 in Biology, and one other science, as well as a grade 5 in maths.

What will I learn on this course?

Biology is divided into topics, each covering different key concepts of biology. Teaching of practical skills is integrated with the theoretical topics and they are assessed through the written papers and the Practical Endorsement, which supports the development of practical skills

The content is split into six teaching modules. Modules 1 to 6, combined with the Practical Endorsement, constitute the full A Level. The modules can be summarised as:

Module 1: Development of Practical Skills in Biology – this module underpins the whole of the specification, and covers the practical skills that students should develop throughout the course. The practical skills in this module will be assessed within written examinations. Successful completion of the required practical assessments will be separately certificated with the Practical Endorsement.

Module 2: Foundations in Biology – covering key concepts required throughout the remaining modules.

Module 3: Exchange and Transport

Module 4: Biodiversity, Evolution and Disease

Module 5: Communication, Homeostasis and Energy

Module 6: Genetics, Evolution and Ecosystems

At A Level:

Paper 1 assesses content from Modules 1, 2, 3 and 5.

Paper 2 assesses content from Modules 1, 2, 4 and 6.

Paper 3 assesses content from Modules 1 to 6.

What could I do at the end of my course?

Biology has scientific, social and environmental application and relevance and therefore complements a wide range of academic and vocational subjects. Biology provides an excellent base from which to develop key skills in communication, application of number and ICT.

Biology A Level qualifications allow for progression to higher education in a wide range of courses and provide a range of skills appropriate for employment in many different fields.