



Advanced Level

BIOLOGY

Course Aims:

Biology is at the forefront of some of the exciting and controversial issues in the news today. Publicity surrounding genetic engineering, environmental and medical developments have highlighted the need for an understanding of such issues. Biology is a very popular and valuable subject at A-Level; it involves the development of understanding and techniques that are highly sort after by Further Education and employers.

By exploring the complexities and wonders of nature you will find a whole world of employment awaits you in fields such as medicine, genetics, biochemistry, ecology, environmental science, agriculture, forensics, law, botany, veterinary medicine, sports training and therapy.



Subject Information Sheet



Course Content and Assessment:

Assessment is through three externally set papers:

Paper 1

- Any content from topics 1-4, including relevant practical skills
- written exam: 2 hours
- 91 marks
- 35% of A Level

Paper 2

- Any content from topics 5-8, including relevant practical skills
- written exam: 2 hours
- 91 marks
- 35% of A Level

Paper 3

- Any content from topics 1-8, including relevant practical skills
- written exam: 2 hours
- 98 marks
- 30% of A Level

A Level Overview:

Year 12 content (1-4)

Year 13 content (5-8)

1. Biological molecules
2. Cells
3. Organisms exchange substances with their environment
4. Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms
5. Energy transfers in and between organisms
6. Organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments
7. Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems
8. The control of gene expression.

Learning Methods:

Biology is content heavy and is taught through classroom discussion, class activities, assignments research, flipped learning, modelling, role play and also by carrying out scientific investigations. Students will also have the opportunity to conduct a day or residential field trip to further their understanding of sampling.

The Biology AQA A Level course is extremely well resourced. Top quality lesson materials are supported by online platforms that will assist consolidation, independent learning and depth of knowledge.

Career Opportunities:

Having A-level Biology is a fantastic qualification opening up fields in engineering and research to medicine and biomedical sciences, as well as teaching and finance.

The course prepares students for both study in biological courses at University and Institutes of Higher Education ranging from Medicine to Biochemistry and Pure Biology.

Entry Requirements:

- Grade 5 or above in English
- Grade 5 or above in Maths.
- Grade 6 or above in Science.

Staff Contacts

K McCarthy - Assistant Headteacher Key Stage 5

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