

Course Level

A Level

Awarding Body

AQA course code 7402

Entry Requirements

Triple Science – Grade 6 in Biology
Combined Science – 2 x Grade 6
Maths – Grade 5

Assessment

At the end of Year 13, you will complete three written exams.

Paper 1 - Year 1 topics, including biological molecules, cells, exchange and variation.

Paper 2 - Year 2 content, including energy, response to the environment, populations and the control of gene expression.

Paper 3 – A more synoptic paper, giving you the opportunity to show how well you can connect different areas of Biology. It includes structured questions as well as a choice of two extended essay questions.

Completion of 12 required practical's which will be assessed in the final written exam, all of which lead towards a 'practical endorsement' which is highly regarded by universities.

BIOLOGY

What will I study?

Ever wondered how your brain works, how your genes shape who you are, or how your body fights disease? A Level Biology gives you the chance to explore these questions and much more.

You will discover what happens inside cells, explore genetics and evolution, investigate how organisms interact with their environment and learn about exciting developments in modern Biology.

You will also have plenty of opportunities to carry out practical work, analyse data, discuss ideas and develop the skills you need to think like a scientist.

Why study Biology?

If you enjoyed Biology at GCSE and want to take it further, A Level Biology opens up a whole new world.

You will explore fascinating ideas and challenge what you think you know, from genetic engineering and evolution to ecosystems and the science of life itself.

You will be taught by two Biology teachers, with lessons including practical investigations, discussions, research, presentations and independent learning.

We will also help you develop the study and exam skills you need to succeed, while encouraging you to become a confident, independent scientist.

How can I get ready over the summer?

There is no need to spend your whole summer studying! A quick recap of your GCSE Biology will give you a great starting point for Year 12.

Stay curious too. Follow science news, watch BBC Earth or explore National Geographic and New Scientist to see how Biology connects to the real world.

You will also receive an A Level Biology transition pack to help you refresh the key knowledge and skills you will need when you start the course, with ideas for exploring Biology beyond the classroom. We also recommend the *Head Start to A Level Biology* guide, ISBN: 9781782942795.

Where could Biology take me?

A Level Biology gives you much more than subject knowledge. You will learn how to collect and analyse data, investigate problems, evaluate evidence, communicate ideas and become more independent in your learning.

These skills can take you in all sorts of directions. Biology students go on to study subjects including Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science, Nursing, Psychology, Forensic Science, Marine Biology, Ecology, Biochemistry, Zoology and Sports Science.

Whether you have your sights set on a career in healthcare or science, or something completely different, Biology can give you a strong foundation for whatever comes next. Take a look at some more options by visiting the following website: <https://www.rsb.org.uk/career-guidance.html>

What are the Entry Requirements?

GCSE grade 6 in Biology or 6-6 in Combined Science. Grade 5 in Maths. About 10% of the total marks in the exams will require the use of Higher Tier GCSE mathematical skills. You will also need self-discipline and motivation to succeed. We recommend that students have a Grade 6 in Maths and English to cope with the demands of the course.

Link to AQA specification:

https://cdn.sanity.io/files/p28bar15/green/98cdb01fb651d63df2ab345a2547774092b43bbc.pdf?_gl=1*107404e*_gcl_au*MjE0NjI0ODUxOS4xNzYwNTMxNTky