

A Level Biology

Examination Board: OCR

Contact Teacher: Mrs Witts



Course Details and Assessment

The A level Biology course is a two year course although there is an option to complete exams after Year 12 and cash in an AS grade. All components are externally assessed and a supporting practical portfolio to demonstrate competence in practical skills will also be reported on. The exam will cover all work from all areas of the course and include a synoptic exam.

The course will cover the following Biology topic areas:

Year 1 Course	Year 2 Course
Basic components of living systems	Neuronal and hormonal communication
Biological molecules	Homeostasis
Enzymes	Plant responses
Cell division	Energy for biological processes
Exchange surfaces and breathing	Respiration
Transport in animals and plants	Genetics of living systems
Classification and evolution	Patterns of inheritance and variation
Biodiversity	Manipulating genomes
Communicable diseases	Cloning and biotechnology
	Ecosystems
	Populations and sustainability

The course is assessed in the following way:

Assessment	Outline	Grading
Biological processes	2hr 15 minute written paper	37%
Biological diversity	2hr 15 minute written paper	37%
Unified Biology	1 hour 30 minute written paper	26%

Career/Higher Education	Entry Requirements
Biology Environmental biology Ecology Medicine Veterinary science Pharmacy Biomedical engineering Sports science Education and many, many more	2 Science GCSEs at Grade 5 or above. A Grade 5 or above in Maths and English would be an advantage.

“The essence of life is statistical improbability on a colossal scale.” Richard Dawkins