

A LEVEL

Exam board AQA

BIOLOGY

SPECIFIC ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Grade 6 or above in GCSE biology (separate science) or grades 6-6 or above in combined science: trilogy **and**
- Grade 5 or above in GCSE mathematics, **and**
- Grade 5 or above in GCSE English Language

Students will need to successfully complete a bridging unit in biology over the summer.

COURSE CONTENT

Advanced level biology is a challenging course involving elements of biochemistry, maths, ecology and physiology.

It is suited to students who have an interest in our bodies, life processes in plants and animals, the environment and biotechnology, and are willing to work hard.

Subject content:

- Biological molecules
- Cells
- Organisms exchange substances with their environment
- Genetic information, variation
- Energy transfers in and between organisms
- Organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments
- Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems
- The control of gene expression

EXAMINATIONS AND ASSESSMENTS

Practical skills and analysis will be taught in the weekly practical lesson, and examined in the theory exam at the end of the course. The three A-Level exam papers will be taken at the end of the two years and will involve data handling, short answers, a comprehension and an essay (10 % of the A-Level). During Y12 all students will sit internal pre-public examinations.

SKILLS, LINKS AND PROGRESSION

As well as being an interesting subject in itself, A Level biology is a useful qualification for students who want to study a broad range of other subjects. Students will be able to move towards careers in medicine, veterinary science, nursing, conservation, physiotherapy, sports sciences, biomedical sciences, environmental sciences, agricultural science, zoology and marine biology. In addition, some former students have gone on successfully to study a range of unrelated degrees such as architecture, accountancy, law and English.

CONTACT

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