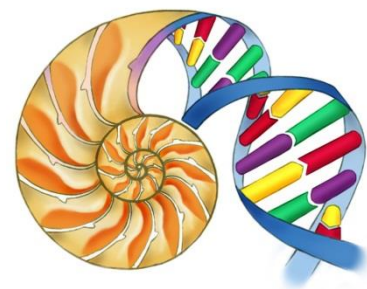


Biology



Exam Board

AQA

Qualification

A Level Biology

Entry Requirements

At least GCSE grade 7 Biology or 77 Science (double award) and a 6+ in Mathematics.

Content (Outline of Course)

A Level students will cover the following topics;

- 3.1 Biological molecules
- 3.2 Cells
- 3.3 Organisms exchange substances with their environment
- 3.4 Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms
- 3.5 Energy transfers in and between organisms
- 3.6 Organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments
- 3.7 Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems
- 3.8 The control of gene expression

Assessment

A Level Biology is a linear course, with all exams held at the end of the course. There will be no internal assessment that leads to marks that contribute towards the final grade. Practical work will be assessed in the written papers. 15% of the total A Level marks will be for practical knowledge and understanding. A separate 'endorsement' of practical work will be assessed by teachers when students carry out required practicals in lessons. This will not be graded. If students pass, it will be reported on their certificate, otherwise it will not be reported.

Examinations

There are 3 written papers at the end of Year 13 carried out during the summer term. Each paper is 2 hours.

Paper 1 is worth 91 marks and is 35% of the overall grade. The paper consists of 76 marks of short and long answer questions and 15 marks of extended response questions. This paper examines topics 1-4.

Paper 2 is worth 91 marks and is 35% of the overall grade. The paper consists of 76 marks of short and long answer questions and 15 marks of comprehension questions. This paper examines topics 5-8.

Paper 3 is worth 78 marks and is 30% of the overall grade. The paper consists of 38 marks of structured questions, including practical techniques, 15 marks of critical analysis, and a 25-mark essay question.

Careers Guidance

Entry into Higher Education institutions to study a very wide range of courses in faculties of Science, Medicine, Business and Law, and a variety of combined courses, leading to rewarding and satisfying employment.

A small number of students prefer to enter the job market direct from Sixth Form.