



## Course Requirements

GCSE Biology – Grade 6  
or GCSE Combined Science – Grade 66

and GCSE Mathematics - Grade 5  
and GCSE English Language – Grade 4

## Syllabus

AQA

## Who to Contact

Miss R Fairey  
Course Leader

## Overview

A Level Biology follows the AQA specification and builds upon the concepts and skills developed in GCSE Science. The course presents biological principles in contexts that students will find interesting and engaging.

Biology is both fascinating and challenging and we aim to develop students' interest in and enthusiasm for Biology including an interest in further study and careers in the subject.

Lesson content is varied and typically may involve discussion, group presentation, role play, reading, exam preparation, practical activity, observation and biological drawing. It is expected that you will have an interest in the subject and be prepared to learn independently.

Year 13 also requires students to take part in a residential field course, during which, compulsory content will be taught.

## Structure

### Year 1 Topics

- Biological Molecules
- Cells
- Exchange of Substances
- Genetics, Variation and Relationships between organisms

Year 2 Topics (3 Exams - 35% + 35% + 30%) - The Year 2 exams will also assess Year 1 topics.

- Energy Transfer in and between organisms
- Responding to changes in the internal and external environment
- Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystem
- Control of gene expression

Students will also be expected to undertake 12 compulsory practicals. 6 in the first year of study, and 6 in the second year. During these practicals students will be assessed on 5 key competencies. Pupils will also be examined on the content and skills covered in the practicals in their end of year examinations.

## You

Candidates will be expected to recognise, recall and demonstrate understanding of subject knowledge; apply such knowledge to unfamiliar situations and demonstrate ethical and safe practical skills.

You will also be required to be dedicated and committed to studying Biology.

Career opportunities are extremely varied. School leavers have gone on to study medicine, biochemistry, veterinary science, physiotherapy, sports science, nursing and paramedic medicine.