

Biology A-Level



Exam board: [AQA](#)

The AQA Biology A-Level course offers an in-depth exploration of the living world, providing a strong foundation in key biological concepts such as genetics, evolution, ecology, and cellular processes. Students delve into complex topics like biochemistry, physiology, and ecosystems, gaining valuable scientific skills through practical experiments and data analysis.

Studying A-Level Biology is ideal for those with a passion for understanding how life functions, from molecular biology to global environmental issues. It's a gateway to a wide range of careers in healthcare, research, environmental science, and biotechnology, and it develops critical thinking, problem-solving, and analytical skills that are highly valued in various fields. Whether you're aspiring to be a doctor, scientist, or just have a curiosity about life, this course provides both the knowledge and skills to thrive in the biological sciences.

Entry requirements:

PH6 standard entry requirements of five + GCSEs (or equivalent) grades 9-5.

Grade 6-6 or above in GCSE Combined Science or Grade 6 in biology, chemistry, and physics.

Grade 6 or above in GCSE Mathematics.

Student attributes:

- Naturally inquisitive and curious nature, prepared to ask questions and challenge ideas.
- Attention to detail and preparedness to be precise in use of language and making measurements.
- Commitment and discipline to enable fact retrieval.
- Willingness to employ trial and error techniques when solving problems or practical problems.
- Resilience and perseverance: prepare to be challenged, to have your ideas about the world challenged, and handle setbacks.
- Interest in the subject: have a passion for the subject and read about the subject beyond the specification.

Course Content & Assessment:

A-Level Biology is a linear subject: all assessment is through written exams at the end of Year 13.

Paper 1: 2 hours, 35% of A-level, mixture of short and long answer questions, extended response questions.

Paper 2: 2 hours, 35% of A-level, mixture of short and long answer questions, comprehension questions.

Paper 3: 2 hours, 30% of A-level, structured questions, analysis of data, essay question.

Practical endorsement: throughout the course in class assessed by your teacher.

Future Destinations:

- University degrees: biology, medicine, biochemistry, biomedical sciences, genetics, zoology, pharmacy, botany, environmental science, microbiology, physiotherapy, psychology, neuroscience, law, business, teaching.
- Professions: biomedical scientist, veterinarian, ecologist, research scientist, conservationist, nurse, dentist, public health officer, toxicologist, nutritionist, lawyer, business and management, data scientist, biomedical engineer, sales representative, data analyst, journalist, policy analyst.

"The love for all living creatures is the most noble attribute of man".

*Charles Darwin
from "The Descent of Man" (1871)*

