



# Biology

Exam Board: Edexcel

**We have always delivered Edexcel Biology A-level and will stay with this exam board and deliver their Specification B course. We are extremely familiar with this exam board's requirements and have always been successful in facilitating students to achieve good grades.**

## Entry Requirements:

Grade 6 or above GCSE Biology plus at least a grade 5 in GCSE Chemistry.

The minimum acceptable grade for students who have studied the Combined Science course is 6.

Although interviews may be employed, these are the grades which students must get to have a realistic chance of success on the course.

Five or above in Mathematics is also an advantage as 10% of the written papers test level 2 Mathematic skills.

Biology is a challenging subject which offers a wide range of experiences and opportunities to develop new skills. Students will build upon their GCSE knowledge and meet brand new topics and concepts. Biology offers the chance to study important issues affecting both our daily lives and the planet's future.

Other subjects which complement Biology are: Mathematics, Statistics, Chemistry, Psychology, Physical Education and Geography. Each of these subjects has a slight overlap with either the content or the skills used in Biology.

As a full A-level, Biology offers the qualifications needed to go on to many University courses including Medicine, Veterinary Science, Physiotherapy, Food Technology, Microbiology, Biotechnology, Marine Biology, Environmental Health, Sports Science and many others.

Biology develops skills in research, practical work, data handling and statistical analysis.

## Practical Work

Although there is no external practical assessment there are a number of practicals that students have to complete to demonstrate specific skills. A certificate is awarded to students who have demonstrated the specified skills over the two year course.

## Who is the course for?

This subject is for students who have a real enthusiasm for developing their own knowledge and have a willingness to take advice and ask for help. If you can plan your work, use research skills and work in a team and on your own, you will be successful.

## A-level Course Summary:

### Year 12

Topic 1: Biological Molecules

Topic 2: Cells, Viruses and Reproduction of Living Things

Topic 3: Classification and Biodiversity

Topic 4: Exchange and Transport

### Year 13

Topic 5: Energy for Biological Processes

Topic 6: Microbiology and Pathogens

Topic 7: Modern Genetics

Topic 8: Origins of Genetic Variation

Topic 9: Control Systems

Topic 10: Ecosystems

## Other Course Information:

Students may wish to purchase text books or revision guides to complement the delivery of this course.



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**“I only started a few weeks ago but Biology is already helping me to understand the fundamental questions about life and our own bodies. It expands on GCSE a lot, but is very interesting.”**

**“It is fascinating to learn about the thousands of chemical reactions and biological processes happening simultaneously across every part of your body while you’re sitting still at your desk, unaware of it all.”**

**“Biology A-level gave me the confidence to move into a Biology Undergraduate degree. I have a strong passion for the Ecology units and the topics studied at A-level really give you an insight into how Biology works in the real world.”**

