

Biology

Awarding Body: Students follow the AQA biology Advanced Subsidiary and Advanced GCE course

Course Content and Examination Requirements

Biology is offered as a one year AS course that can be extended to an Advanced GCE qualification by studying the second part of the course (A2)

Year 12	Year 13
AS Level Units	A2 units leading to full Advanced GCE
Unit 1 Biology and disease	Unit 4 Populations and environment
Unit 2 The variety of life	Unit 5 Control in cells and in organisms
Unit 3 Investigative and practical skills	Unit 6 Investigative and practical skills

Practical Assessment

There are two parts to the assessment of *units 3 and 6*. The PSA, Practical Skills assessment, is worth 6 marks. These skills are assessed by the teachers throughout the course. The ISA, Investigative Skills Assignment is taken at a time appropriate to the candidates. This is worth 44 marks; it is set by AQA and marked by your teachers to AQA marking guidelines

Units 1 and Units 4 will be assessed via a written paper in the January of year 12 (Unit 1) and 13 (Unit 4).

Units 2 and 5 will be assessed via a written paper in the June of year 12 (Unit 2) and 13 (Unit 5).

The aims of the Course

- To develop knowledge and understanding of the concepts of biology
- To develop an awareness of advances in technology related to biology
- To recognize the value of biology in society
- To be able to make sense of news items relating to biological issues
- To understand how scientists interact with each other, and with society at large, in making use of new discoveries.

Relevance to Further Study

Biology as a science subject can be combined with a wide variety of subjects as well as Chemistry, Physics and Mathematics. It is accepted as a qualification for medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Nursing and other medical careers. It is also accepted as a qualification for Applied Science Courses such as Agriculture, Horticulture, Forensic Science, Environmental science and Genetic Engineering

Entry Requirements: 2 or 3 B's in GCSE Science including core additional, or biology plus a 'B' for GCSE maths.

Further Information: Dr Emery
Miss Brown
Miss Collins
Dr Laval
Mrs Whitehouse