

A LEVEL

BIOLOGY



Achieving Excellence Together

AQA A Level Biology

Entry Requirements: Grade 6 in Biology at GCSE Level or Grade 7 in Core subjects and Combined Science

Course Description

A challenging, fascinating and inspiring two years will be spent learning about living organisms. The course is split into 8 units spread over the two years. In every sub-topic we support students to build on their foundational GCSE knowledge and develop this into more advanced 'A' level understanding and dialogue. We offer students insights into the real world of biological research through reading of carefully selected journal articles to enable them to recognise how what they are studying fits into the wider research community. Embedded within every topic, are opportunities for both teachers and students to assess progress using real past paper questions and grade boundaries. This allows both the teachers and students to pinpoint content and skills that need to be prioritised to enable more progress to be made. Lessons will consist of clear, step-wise teaching, use of visualiser to support student to access understanding of complex biological processes. A wide variety of learning activities suited to the content being delivered will be used to meet the students needs. In addition, students will complete a minimum of 12 required practicals.

Course Description Continued...

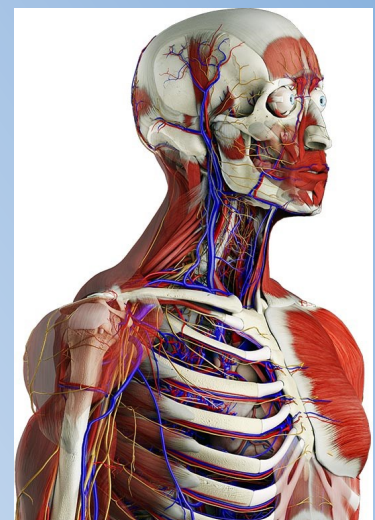
Students will move from being supported and guided by the teacher at the start of year 12 to being in a position of autonomy over their own investigations by the middle of year 13 thus developing them as practical scientists. Once completed and assessed by their teachers this should lead to a Science Practical Endorsement Qualification, something highly valued by universities. Course and topic checklist are provided to enable students to track their progress and to ensure that their notes are kept meticulously tidy within their folders. Every student has a helpful textbook and one-to-one intervention is given to any students who are set to achieve lower than their target grade.

Method(s) of Assessment

To achieve an A Level in Biology: Three exams at the end of Year 13, each lasting two hours and each worth one third of the grade. Paper 1 consists of content from topics 1–4 including relevant practical skills. Paper 2 consists of content from modules 5–8 including relevant practical skills. Paper 3 is a synoptic paper including content from any of the 8 topics and an essay question worth 25 marks.

Progression

This is a well respected qualification and would look impressive on anyone's CV. Biology-related careers include doctors, nurses, midwives, physiotherapists, veterinarians, farmers, biotechnologists, forensic scientists, biomedical scientists, nutritionists, marine biologists and environmental scientists etc.



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