

Biology

Why choose Biology?

Biology is a diverse subject, which is interesting, stimulating and fun. It will give you the expertise and knowledge to understand today's world. If you have an interest in science and plan to further this interest at university Biology can provide a route to this. It will provide you with the opportunity to carry out practical work, investigations and group work. Biology is especially important if you have an interest in pursuing a medically related career such as being a doctor, physiotherapist, radiographer, pharmacist, nursing or dentistry.

What can I expect to learn?

The course followed is the AQA syllabus and a variety of topics will be studied such as

- Pathogens and life styles
- The heart and heart disease
- Lungs and lung disease
- Digestion and enzymes
- Lifestyle related to health
- Immunity
- Genetics and Variation

This will build on the topics you have studied at GCSE. You will study a range of topics that will be tested across all the papers. The final paper also requires you to write an essay and so literacy skills are very important. At least 10% of the paper involves maths and therefore we will look at both your Maths and English before accepting you onto the Biology course.

As there is no coursework, practical skills are assessed throughout the two years and there are 12 required practicals that lessons must be carried out and recording in a lab book. To pass the practical element all must be attended and recorded to a suitable standard and this appears as a separate mark along with your final grade.

Where will this course lead?

Biology is a subject that can be studied in its own right at university. However, any medical related courses will almost always require A level Biology. Biology is a rapidly growing and exciting science. With the discovery of new and improved biochemical techniques such as electron microscopy, Biotechnology, DNA sequencing and genetic engineering, new opportunities are opening all the time. Biology qualifications can lead on to a huge variety of different careers from Neuroscience, Dentistry, Veterinary Science and Medicine to Forestry, Environmental Studies, Food Science, Sport Science, Horticulture and Laboratory work (including Forensics).

Entry requirements:

Separate Sciences.

If you study separate Science you need a minimum **grade 6** in Biology.

Additionally you need at least a **grade 5** in Maths.

Combined Sciences

If you study separate Science you need a minimum **grade 66** overall in Combined Science and your Biology component must be minimum grade 6.

Additionally you need at least a **grade 5** in Maths.

