

BIOLOGY

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT

Mr A Hoyle
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TYPE OF QUALIFICATION

A-level

EXAM BOARD

OCR

SPECIFICATION

[Click here](#)

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Preferred: GCSE Biology grade 6
or combined science grade 65
Essential: GCSE Biology grade 5
or combined science grade 54



AIMS OF THE COURSE

The aims of this course are to:

- encourage candidates to develop their interest in an enthusiasm for Biology, including developing an interest in further study and careers in Biology
- appreciate how society makes decisions on scientific matters, and will understand how Biology contributes to the economy and wider society
- develop skills and knowledge relating to "How Biology works" and how different areas of Biology relate to each other
- develop potential to go on and study Biology at university level.

COURSE OUTLINE & ASSESSMENT

The A Level Biology course consists of:

Module 1: Development of practical skills in Biology
Module 2: Foundations in Biology
Module 3: Exchange and Transport
Module 4: Biodiversity, Evolution and Disease
Module 5: Communication, Homeostasis and Energy
Module 6: Genetics, Evolution and Ecosystems

Students will sit 3 exams at the end of Year 13. Practical skills are assessed separately with a "pass" or "fail" recorded on the certificate.

CAREER PROSPECTS

The A level Biology is accepted for a wide range of university courses. Biology students have gone on to study many different science related courses including Medicine, Biomedical Sciences, Neurobiology, Microbiology, Zoology, Veterinary Science, Radiography and Physiotherapy. Some students have followed a non-science path to study subjects such as Law, Management, Art, Business and many more. Note; some university Biology courses expect students to have an A-level in Chemistry as well as Biology.

SUBJECT ENRICHMENT



Something to think about...

What does it mean to be alive? Should we take more action to protect the Biodiversity on our planet? How far should Biologists go in the manipulation of an organism's genome?



Something to listen to...

[The Natural Selection](#) podcast
[Infinite Monkey Cage](#) podcast
[Horizon documentaries](#) available on the BBC iPlayer



Something to read...

Oxford University Press [transition pack](#), [@AngiePeahen booklet](#), [PiXL booklet](#), Open University Press Science [skills pack](#), and Shelley Parry's [enrichment](#) from Y11 to Y12.

