

A Level Biology – Subject Information Sheet

Why choose A Level Biology?

If you are interested in recent developments in genetic engineering or disease prevention, finding out how cells – “little bags of water with things dissolved in them” – carry out so many different processes in a seemingly effortless fashion, tracking down natural resources, the true impacts of pollution on the natural world, or animal care and conservation programmes, to name a few, then this is your subject.

The study of life itself, A level Biology explores the theories and principles involved in living systems, in all their intricate beauty. Topics you will learn about include: lifestyle, transport, genes and health, development, plants and the environment, the natural environment and species survival, energy, exercise and co-ordination, as well as practical biology and research skills. By the end of the course you will know about the principles of genetics, molecules, taxonomy, natural selection, evolutionary theory, global warming, bacteria and viruses, and more.

What other subjects would work well with A Level Biology?

Chemistry, Psychology, Maths, English

Educational Progression and Career Opportunities.

What possible careers or degree subjects would A Level Biology be useful for?

Biomedical science, Nutrition, Physiotherapy, Medicine, Midwifery, Biochemistry,
Teaching.

Biology is also usually required or recommended for courses in biochemistry, environmental science, nursing, occupational therapy, optometry, pharmacy, sports science, physiology and speech therapy.

Description of the course

A level Biology provides a solid grounding in analytical thinking, writing reports and clear communication – all of which are useful life skills. You will undertake lab and field experiments which underpin the theoretical study; they also hone your teamwork and practical abilities.

Lab work and writing up experiments will help you develop your skills and competence in scientific methods and scientific communication, and you will get plenty of practice in mathematical and problem-solving techniques, too.

Over the 2 years, you will learn about a variety of topics including, genetics, conservation programmes, the heart, biodiversity, genetic engineering and many more.

Want to find out more? Here are some useful websites and resources to use.

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/171736-specification-accredited-a-level-gce-biology-a-h420.pdf>

<https://biologyguide.app/>

