

Biology - AQA

Course Content

Year 1

1. Biological molecules
2. Cells
3. Organisms exchange substances with their environment
4. Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms

Plus relevant practical skills

Year 2

5. Energy transfers in and between organisms
6. Organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments
7. Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems
8. The control of gene expression

Plus relevant practical skills

Assessment Pattern

A level Examinations

June of second academic year, three exams, each 2 hours in length.

Paper 1

Content: Section 1 - 4 plus practical skills, 91 marks, 35% of A Level

Paper 2

Content: Section 5 - 8 plus practical skills, 91 marks, 35% of A Level

Paper 3

Content: Section 1 - 8 plus practical skills, 78 marks, 30% of A Level

AS Examinations

If students choose this pathway examinations are sat in June of the first academic year. This include two 1hour 30 minute exams

Paper 1

Content: Section 1 - 4 plus practical skills, 75 marks, 50% of AS Level

65 marks: short answer questions plus 10 marks: comprehension question

Paper 2

Content: Section 1 - 4 plus practical skills, 75 marks, 50 % of AS Level

65 marks: short answer questions plus 10 marks: extended response questions

Lesson Structure

Formal teaching, small group work, practical work, problem solving tasks, research.

Extra Information

Candidates should come from a Double Science background, preferably with a minimum grade "B" in Core Science and Additional Science, or in Biology. An inquisitive mind, a good understanding of Mathematics at GCSE and a keen interest in Biology are also useful prerequisites. The Biology Course is an excellent complement to Physics and/or chemistry. It may also prove useful to those studying Geography with an interest in Ecology or PE and Physiology. It offers a gateway to many careers in Science and Medicine.