

## Biology A Level AQA

### Programme of Study:

#### Year 1

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

#### 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

### Assessment

#### Paper 1

Any content from topics 1–4, including relevant practical skills

Written exam: 2 hours. 91 marks. 35% of A-level

#### Paper 2

Any content from topics 5–8, including relevant practical skills

Written exam: 2 hours. 91 marks. 35% of A-level

#### Paper 3

Any content from topics 1–8, including relevant practical skills

Written exam: 2 hours. 78 marks. 30% of A-level

### Entry Requirements

Grade 6 or above in Biology if studying Triple Science at GCSE or G66 if studying Combined Science at GCSE

### Recommended Reading and Subject Enrichment

There are many popular science titles and journals that will give you a broader range of understanding of A-level biology. These include the following titles but there are many others.

1. *The Incredible Unlikelihood of Being*, Alice Roberts.
2. *The Epigenetics Revolution*, Nessa Carey.
3. **New Scientist** This is a weekly science magazine. <http://www.newscientist.com/>
4. **Nature**. This is an international weekly journal of science. <http://www.nature.com/>

As part of the course we run many enrichment activities:

Students have the opportunity to take part in the royal society for biology's biological Olympiad.

Each year at the end of year 12 they go on a field trip to develop their ecology skills.

We attend the Summer Exhibition at the Royal Society where they get to meet research scientists

### Higher Education and Career Pathways

Students who study Biology often choose to pursue a career as a marine biologist, nature conservation officer, pharmacologist, research scientist, medical profession, higher education lecturer.

### Complimentary Subjects

Maths, Chemistry, Physics, Psychology