

AS/A LEVEL BIOLOGY

Entry requirements - 5 A-C at GCSE. At least a Double C in Additional Science or a B in Applied Science.

The course involves the study of human, animal and plant biology. It gives the knowledge required to study any type of biology at university. The course is modular with three modules for AS (year 12) and three for A2 (Year 13). Popular topics include: effect of drugs on the body, cancer biology, cloning and exercise biology. The assessment is through both examinations and practical work.

AS Biology

Unit 1 – Biology and Disease

Study the systems of the body e.g. the breathing system and the digestive system, and learn how diseases such as tuberculosis and cholera affect them.

Unit 2 – Variety of Living Organisms

Study how organisms are different from each other and how the genetic material (DNA) leads to these differences.

Unit 3 – Investigative and Practical Skills

Various practical activities will be carried out that relate to the topics above and there will be an assessment in the same style as the GCSE ISAs.

A2 Biology

Unit 4 – Populations and Environment

Learn about how organisms live in communities and how they interact with their environment, and look at the impact that humans have on ecosystems.

Unit 5 - Control in Cells and in Organisms

Study how communication occurs within the body using hormones and the nervous system. Learn how the DNA is able to control activities of the cells and how a lack of control can result in cancer.

Unit 6 – Further Investigative and Practical Skills

Various practical activities will be carried out that relate to the topics above and there will be an assessment in the same style as the GCSE ISAs.