

Biology A-level

OCR A

Miss Kilbourn (Head of Biology)

Mrs Reinhold

Mr Blackwell

Mrs Milne

Mrs Rooke

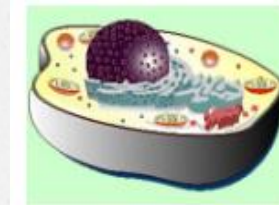
What will you learn about?

Module 1 – Practical skills

- Covered throughout the course in lessons

Module 2 – Foundations in Biology

- Cell structure
- Biological membranes
- Biological molecules
- DNA & RNA
- Enzymes
- Mitosis & Meiosis



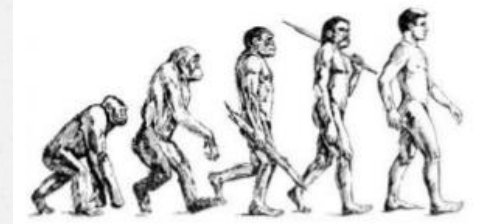
Module 3 – Exchange and Transport

- Circulatory system, Respiratory system
- Transport in plants



Module 4 – Biodiversity, Evolution and Disease

- Biodiversity and conservation
- Classification and evolution
- Diseases and immunity



Module 5 – Communication, Homeostasis and Energy

- Nervous system
- Hormones
- Excretion
- Photosynthesis
- Respiration



Module 6 – Genetics, Evolution and Ecosystems

- Genetics
- Speciation and Selection
- Cloning
- Biotechnology & Gene technology
- Ecosystems and Sustainability



How will I be assessed?

(linear exams at end of year 13)

Paper 1 – Biological Processes

- 2hr 15min
- 100 marks
- Multiple-choice and short answer style

Paper 2 – Biological Diversity

- 2hr 15min
- 100 marks
- Short answer style

Mathematical skills = 10%

Practical skills = 15%

Paper 3 – Unified Biology

- 1hr 30min
- 70 marks
- Short answer style and extended Responses

What makes a successful biology student?

Somebody who...

- o has a genuine interest in the subject
- o is enthusiastic
- o is intellectually curious
- o is prepared to ask questions
- o is prepared to work very hard
- o is willing to dedicate lots of independent study time to the subject
- o is very comfortable with GCSE Maths



What do our biology students go on to do next?

- o Most of our students go on to university
- o Over 45 students are applying to Biology-related courses at university this year
- o Here are some examples of what last year's leavers are now studying:
 - Biological sciences
 - Neuroscience
 - Human sciences
 - Natural sciences
 - Ecology
 - Biomedical sciences
 - Medicine
 - Veterinary medicine
 - Nursing
 - Midwifery

Last year's A-level results in Biology:
14% A*, 56% A*-A, 75% A*-B, 96% A*-C



What exciting extension opportunities are on offer for biologists?

- o BioSoc
- o MedSoc
- o VetSoc
- o Extended project qualification (EPQ)
 - o Some examples of titles from last year:
 - o “To what extent is there a link between epilepsy and depression?”
 - o “To what extent is Riluzole an effective treatment of Motor Neuron Disease?”
 - o “Are Interferons the most effective form of treatment for relapsing-remitting MS?”

What should you do to prepare to study A-level Biology?

- o Headstart to A-level Biology (CGP guide)
- o Work experience (especially if you are considering Medicine and Veterinary medicine)
- o Start reading beyond your GCSE courses
 - o Biological sciences review/New scientist
- o (If you are a Borlase student) start attending BioSoc, MedSoc, VetSoc

Any questions?

