



What will Year 12 students learn and how many lessons will they have each week?

In Year 12 students have 4 hours per week of Biology lessons

As well as developing practical skills, we will study, cellular biology, biological molecules, exchange and transport systems in animals and plants, biodiversity, evolution and disease

What will Year 12 students need to do to get the most out of their lessons?

Students need to be prepared for hard work from the beginning of Year 12. A-level Biology is a lot harder than GCSE, so you will need to be motivated. In lessons maintain a positive attitude and ask when you need concepts clarifying. Listen to your teachers and ask questions. Biology is not about learning facts but applying your understanding to different situations, so be prepared to think deeply. Whilst doing practical work think about what you are doing, why and how the experiment could be improved.

How much homework will Year 12 students have in this subject?

We expect students to do a minimum of 4 hours per week of private study. This will be made up of homework tasks, writing up practical work, independent reading, and preparation work.

Which careers can this subject lead to?

Cytology, Medicine, Dentistry, Nursing, Ecologist, Forensic Biologist, Marine Biology, Microbiology, Molecular Biosciences, Physiotherapy, Agriculture, Biochemist, Geneticist, Forestry, Conservation,

Biology is an incredibly versatile subject. Biology has links to Chemistry, Psychology, Maths (statistics) and P.E. However it can also complement courses in the Humanities Faculty and particularly in Social Sciences.

Why should I study A-level Biology?

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, as well as developing and demonstrating a deep appreciation of the skills, knowledge and understanding of scientific methods. You will develop competence and confidence in a variety of practical, mathematical and problem solving skills. We will also develop an understanding of how society makes decisions about scientific issues and how the Sciences contribute to the success of the economy and society.

Do I need to be good at Maths to study A-level Biology?

Out of all the Sciences Biology requires the least amount of mathematical training. However, the exam will have a minimum of 10% quantitative skills. We will cover new mathematical concepts in class, including a variety of statistical tests, but we will expect students to recall mathematical concepts and skills covered at GCSE.

Do I need to be good at English to study A-level Biology?

A-level Biology is rich in new words and concepts. So being able to grasp new vocabulary is crucial to success. We will support you with learning these terms by linking them to their Latin and Greek origins.