
BIOLOGY

Examination Board: **AQA**

Syllabus: **7402**

WHY STUDY BIOLOGY?

In A Level biology you will study the living world in greater depth. You will investigate the chemicals and genes which code for all living things, the cells which make up our bodies, the fundamentals of respiration and photosynthesis, oxygen transport and the cutting edge technology of genetic engineering. If you are interested in how life works and the majesty of the natural world, biology is the subject which can give you a greater understanding of how we stay alive.

THE A LEVEL PROGRAMME OF STUDY: How you will be assessed

Unit	Unit contents	Assessment and duration
Paper 1 – topics 1-4	-Biological molecules -Cells -Organisms and exchange of substances with their environment - Genetic information, variation, and relationships between organisms	2 hours
Paper 2 – topics 5-8	- Energy transfers in and between organisms - Responses to changes in internal and external environment - Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems - The control of gene expression	2 hours
Paper 3 – topics 1-8	- Topics 1-8 (as stated above)	2 hours (including synoptic essay)

HIGHER EDUCATION AND CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Students who have taken biology have gone on to study for degrees in many different science subjects, medicine & medical science, engineering, mathematics, economics and law to name just a few. The analytical and statistical skills alongside the ability to draw logical conclusions from evidence are valuable in many careers.

SUBJECT SPECIFIC ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Students must have studied either: (i.) Trilogy Science GCSEs, in which case they must have achieved grade 5-5 (plus a minimum of grade 5 in GCSE mathematics); or (ii.) Separate Sciences GCSEs, in which case they must have achieved at least a grade 5 in GCSE biology, plus a grade 5 in one other science and a grade 5 in GCSE mathematics. Grade 4 or higher is also required in GCSE English.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION please contact Mr J Kenning jke@sandon.essex.sch.uk