

BIOLOGY A-LEVEL

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Focusing on the structure and functions of a variety of organisms and considering human interactions with the environment, this course will also provide you with an appreciation of how society makes decisions about scientific issues and how the sciences contribute to the success of the economy and society.

Year one builds on knowledge from GCSE studying humans as organisms, exchange and transport, biodiversity, evolution and health, as well as introducing new topics such as cell ultrastructure and biochemistry. In year two, areas of study will include the endocrine and nervous systems, genetics, biotechnology and conservation.

Biology is an experimental science so you will carry out a range of laboratory or fieldbased activities to enhance your understanding and develop your practical skills. Fieldwork is carried out within the College grounds or around the Henley area, supported by optional one-day trips out.

WHAT NEXT?

A key course for students planning to continue on to university to study subjects including medicine, dentistry, veterinary science, biochemistry, marine biology, midwifery, nursing, environmental science, physiotherapy and sports science. It also provides a strong grounding for those wishing to pursue many other subject areas at degree level.

Alternatively, students may consider direct entry into employment or further training.

A key course for students planning to continue on to university to study subjects including fine art textiles, Textile design, fashion design, fashion marketing and costume design. Possible careers include designer, tailor, bridal wear designer/maker, artist, fashion illustrator, fashion forecaster, milliner, fashion editor, retailer, fashion marketing, costume designer, art therapist, teacher, community artist, illustrator, textile restorer, fabric designer, buyer, fashion designer, accessory designer.

Subject to tutors' recommendations and a portfolio interview, this course guarantees the offer of a place on the College's post A Level Foundation course in Art and Design. Alternatively, students may consider direct entry into employment or further training.

ASSESSMENT

Exam (100%). Students must also produce a portfolio of evidence to demonstrate their competence in a variety of practical tasks (Practical Endorsement).

DURATION

2 years

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Standard entry requirements to include grade 5 in GCSE Mathematics and English, plus grade 6 in GCSE Biology or 66 in Core Science and Additional Science.

EXAM BOARD

OCR

COSTS

£30 for textbooks and practice exam papers, plus optional field trips and visits.