

Sixth Form



GCE A Level Biology

Duration:

1 Year for AS, 2 years for A level (A2). AS Biology is composed of two taught and examined units, and one coursework unit. A2 Biology is composed of two taught and examined units, and one coursework unit. Unit 4 involves a one day field trip to a rocky shore to collect data on living organisms in their natural habitat.

Specification:

AQA. *Further details are available from their website*

Entry Requirements/Student Suitability:

Students are required to reach the Wadebridge Sixth Form Level 3 entry criteria. In addition it is recommended that students have a grade B or above in Additional or Separate Sciences.

Course Content:

AS Level

Unit 1 – Biology and Disease

33% AS Mark, 16% total A2

Disease and Immunity
The Digestive System
Cell Structure
Lungs and Disease
Heart, Circulation and Disease

Unit 2 – The Variety of Living Organisms

46% AS Mark, 23% total A2

Genetics
Biochemistry
Exchange and Transport Systems
Classification and Species Diversity
Variation

Unit 3 – Investigative and Practical Skills

20% AS Mark, 10% total A2

You will carry out a practical experiment and answer a written test.

A2 Level

Unit 4 – Populations and Environment 1

6% total A2

Photosynthesis and Respiration
Energy flows and food production
Ecosystems and Populations
Inheritance
Evolution

Unit 5 – Control in Cells and Organisms

23% total A2

Further Genetics
Gene technology
Sensitivity and Coordination
Nerves and Muscles
Homeostasis

Unit 6 – Investigative and Practical Skills

10% total A2

You will carry out a practical experiment, apply statistical test to analyze the data, and answer a written test.

For further information and exemplar question papers see the exam board web site.

Methods of Study:

Class discussion
Note taking
Practical activities
Group work on presentations
Independent research
Practice exam questions
Standardized internal assessment ISA
Field work

Independent Study Time:

Do living things fascinate you? How does the science of genetics work? What effect does biology have on the environment? Students are expected to have a genuine interest and enthusiasm for the subject with the willingness to put in many hours of extra study to back up the work covered in lessons. There will be at least one piece of homework per week, including practice exam questions. Frequent interim tests are given to assess progress and understanding.

Progression and the Future:

If you are considering applying to university to study biology, zoology, ecology, animal science, marine biology, life sciences, medicine, environmental science, forensic science or any other subject related to the natural world, then A-level Biology is essential.

Possible career choices that require A-level Biology include: biological testing, biotechnology, independent research, food industry jobs, nutrition, medicine, doctor, nurse, veterinarian, zoologist, zookeeper, animal care, veterinary nurse, scientist, amongst a huge range of others.

Subject Contacts:

Mrs E Fraser-Hitch

lfraser-hitch@wadebridge.cornwall.sch.uk

How to Apply:

The Application Process begins in February of each year. Please contact Sarah Fisher, Sixth Form Administrator for further information or to request an application form.

sixthform@wadebridge.cornwall.sch.uk

For further information and to apply for this course:

Please contact Sarah Fisher, Sixth Form Administrator

sixthform@wadebridge.cornwall.sch.uk

Telephone 01208 812881 Ext 254 or 07807301462

Wadebridge

