



*"Biology is the study of complicated things that have the appearance of having been designed with a purpose."  
Richard Dawkins*

### Entry Requirements

A minimum of grade 4 in Maths and an English plus at least 3 other GCSEs at grade 5

### Subject specific Requirements

Grade 6 in Biology / Combined Science and Grade 5 in Maths

### About the Course

#### **Year 12 and Year 13 A Level Biology A: Course Overview**

Biology A Level is split into six modules: Modules 1 to 6, combined with the Practical Endorsement, constitutes the full A Level. The modules can be summarised as:

**Module 1:** Development of practical skills—this module underpins the whole of the specification, and covers the practical skills that students should develop throughout the course. The practical skills in this module can be assessed within written examinations and (for A Level only) within the Practical Endorsement.

**Module 2:** Foundations in biology—covering concepts required throughout the remaining modules. Cell structure; Biological molecules; Nucleotides and nucleic acids; Enzymes; Biological membranes; Cell division, cell diversity and cellular organisation.

**Module 3 and 4:** Year 12. Exchange surfaces, transport in animals, transport in plants.

Communicable diseases, disease prevention and the immune system, biodiversity, classification and evolution.

**Module 5 and 6:** Year 13 topics. Communication and homeostasis, excretion as an example of homeostatic control, neuronal communication, hormonal communication, plant and animal responses, photosynthesis, respiration. Cellular control, patterns of inheritance, manipulating genomes, cloning and biotechnology, ecosystems, populations and sustainability .

### Assessment

#### **At A Level:**

A Level Paper 1 assesses the content from Modules 1,2,3 and 5 (Biological processes)

A Level Paper 2 assesses the content from Modules 1,2,4 and 6 (Biological diversity)

A Level paper 3 assesses the content form all modules (Unified Biology)

Practical endorsement is a portfolio of practical work collected by the student over the 2 year of study.

### Future Applications

*An A-level in Biology is the starting point for a wide variety of career choices including:  
medicine;  
veterinary science;  
microbiology,  
sports science;  
nursing and research.*

### Alumni

Tim , GRADE A, Veterinary Science Nottingham Trent. Aimee , GRADE A, Sports & Exercise Science, Leeds Metropolitan. Claire , GRADE A\*, Medicine, Newcastle.