Post 16 Prospectus: BIOLOGY

Advanced Subsidiary (AS) & Advanced Level (A2)
Examining Board: AQA

AIM

The aim of the course is to study the structure and function of living things, and their interaction with the environment. It also develops skills in scientific enquiry, data analysis and evaluation.

COURSE CONTENT

	AS Level (Stand-alone AS Exam)		**Advanced Level** (Decoupled Exam)
1	Biological Molecules	1	Energy transfers in and between organisms
2	Cells	2	Organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments
3	Organisms Exchange Substances with their Environment	3	Genetics, Populations, Evolution and Ecosystems
4	Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms	4	The Control of Gene Expression
AS ASSESSMENT		**A2 ASSESSMENT**	
Paper 1 (50% of the course) - Any content from topics 1-4 above, including relevant practical skills Short answer questions and a comprehension question		Paper 1 (35% of the course) - Any content from topics 1-4 above, including relevant practical skills Short and long answer questions Extended response question	
Paper 2 (50% of the course) - Any content from topics 1-4 above, including relevant practical skills Short answer questions and extended response questions		Paper 2 (35% of the course) - Any content from topics 5-8 above, including relevant practical skills Short and long answer questions Comprehension question	
		Paper 3 (30% of the course) - Any content from topics 1-8 above, including relevant practical skills. Short answer questions Critical analysis of experimental data Essay	
		Practical Endorsement achieved by completing all 12 required practical elements with all skills demonstrated and evidenced.	

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SUBJECT ENRICHMENT
Field work to study moor and river ecosystems

SUBJECT SPECIFIC ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
General entry requirement for Post-16: 5 grade 4 at GCSE, including English and/or Maths.
Specific entry requirements: Grade 6 in GCSE Biology or Trilogy Science. Grade 6 in Maths. Grade 5 in English.

WHERE NEXT?
Medicine and Dentistry
Nursing and midwifery
Ecologist
Conservationist
Health Promotion
Research Scientist
Veterinary Science
Pharmacy and drug development
Botanist
Microbiologist
Science writer/editor

STUDENT SUPPORT
Regular drop in sessions for small group and individual tuition, including study and revision skills

- 'Open door policy' so students are able to access staff for help during study periods and outside of lessons
- Revision sessions
- Regular exam question practice and review lessons
- Checklists to allow students to monitor their progress through the course and to identify areas of strengths and weaknesses
- Resources to develop written communication skills
- Individual tuition programmes for students experiencing difficulties

STUDENT PROGRESS
High value added scores, +0.57 L3VA compared to national in 2019.
Oxbridge success, for example one student is currently studying Biology at Oxford.
Success with Medicine related courses e.g. Ben at Liverpool studying medicine, Sophie studying physiotherapy at Hertfordshire and Gracie studying Biomedical Sciences at Durham.
Variety in the courses that students can study with general Biology an option, e.g. James and Lauren at Newcastle
Opportunities to access specialist courses e.g. Isobel studying Zoology at Birmingham, following a gap year that includes conservation work in Madagascar.