



Course Details		Biology
Exam Board		OCR
Syllabus title		Biology A
Course Code		H420 (2-year A level) http://www.ocr.org.uk/alevelbiologya
Course Content		Module 1: Development of Practical Skills in Biology Module 2: Foundations in Biology Module 3: Exchange & Transport Module 4: Biodiversity, Evolution & Disease Module 5: Communication, Homeostasis & Energy Module 6: Genetics, Evolution & Ecosystems
Assessment and weighting		A Level Paper 1: Biological Processes (37%) A Level Paper 2: Biological Diversity (37%) A Level Paper 3: Unified Biology (26%) A Level: Endorsement of Practical Work – Pass/Fail
Trips/visits		Day trip to Whipsnade Zoo Other ad hoc local trips if suitable opportunities arise
Future opportunities/career		The course is directly relevant for many degrees in biology or related subjects including medicine, biochemistry, and pharmacy. The subject can also support an application for a degree in something completely different. A good A level pass in Biology is also evidence of general academic standards and transferable skills for candidates who wish to move straight into employment.



Person Specification		Biology
		Required
Qualifications/ School record		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grade 5 or better in GCSE Biology OR GCSE Combined Science; Trilogy • GCSE grade 6 or better in English • GCSE grade 5 or better in Mathematics • 95% or better attendance in year 11 • ATL in sciences never less than 2 (good) during KS4
Attitude/Qualities		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hard working & organised • Positive & enthusiastic • An interest in biology and biological issues • An interest in practical work and the process of scientific enquiry
Skills		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe handling of laboratory equipment and chemicals • Handling data and plotting graphs and charts • Competence in general arithmetic • Learning and using specialist vocabulary • Working as part of a small team
Experience		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grade 5 or better in GCSE Biology OR GCSE Combined Science; Trilogy • GCSE grade 6 or better in English • GCSE grade 5 or better in Mathematics • 95% or better attendance in year 11 • ATL in sciences never less than 2 (good) during KS4
		Desirable:
Qualifications/ School record		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grade 6 or better in GCSE Biology OR GCSE Combined Science; Trilogy
Skills		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General skills in ICT for word-processing and making presentations
Experience		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None required