



# BIOLOGY A-LEVEL

## WHY SHOULD I STUDY A-LEVEL BIOLOGY?

Biology is the science behind life and all living things. Biology builds on concepts studied previously but delves much further into the depths of all living organisms, mechanisms and life processes. This is the most exciting time to be a biologist. Biologists are working to solve the biggest challenges currently facing humanity and our planet – fighting disease, protecting the environment and feeding our growing population. If you have a love for life, head for figures and enjoy applying your knowledge to real life situations, Biology is for you.

## WHAT WILL I LEARN ABOUT?

You will study 6 Modules; Module 1: Development of practical skills in biology; Module 2: Foundations in biology; Module 3: Exchange and transport; Module 4: Biodiversity, evolution and disease; Module 5: Communication, homeostasis and energy; Module 6: Genetics, evolution and ecosystems. Broad topics include: Biological Molecules; Cells, Viruses and Reproduction of Living Things; Classification and Biodiversity; Exchange and Transport; Experimental Methods, Energy for Biological Processes; Microbiology and Pathogens, Modern Genetics. This is a practical subject thus enjoyment of laboratory work is a natural prerequisite.

## HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

You will have 3 Examinations and a non-exam assessment component. Biological Processes: 37% of total A level; Biological Diversity: 37% of total A-level; Unified Biology: 26% of total A-level. The final component is the Practical Endorsement which is assessed purely through a collection of practical work.

## WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

Studying Biology will equip you with the tools in order to understand how society makes decisions about scientific issues and how science contributes to the success of the economy and society. At the same time, you will develop competence and confidence in a variety of practical, mathematical, problem-solving skills, amongst communication and analytical thinking, to name a few.

## WHERE COULD THIS SUBJECT TAKE ME IN THE FUTURE?

Biology is a well-respected Science subject that is highly regarded by Universities. Biology provides foundations for thinking critically and analytically and as a result it can lead to further studies in a wide range of both Science and non-Science subjects.

**Exam Board:** OCR

