

Biology A-level AQA Exam Board



Why Study Biology?

Biology A-level will give you the skills to make connections and associations with all living things around you. Biology literally means the study of life and if that is not important, what is? Biology is a broad topic, within it you will find numerous specific areas of interest, plus it opens the door to a fantastic range of interesting careers.



Assessment Structure

Paper 1: Any content from topics 1-4 including relevant practical skills 35%

Assessed: 2 hours written exam 91 marks

Questions: A mixture of short and long answer questions
76 marks with extended response questions 15 marks:

Paper 2 Any content from topics 5–8, including relevant practical skills 35%

Assessed: 2 hour written exam 91 marks

Questions: A mixture of short and long answer questions
76 marks: with comprehension question 15 marks:

Paper 3 Any content from contents 1-8 30% including relevant practical skills

Assessed: 2 hour written exam 78 marks

Questions: structured questions, including practical techniques 38 marks

Critical analysis of given experimental data 15 marks:

One essay from a choice of two titles 25 marks

Practical requirements – all assessed in school

12 required practicals focusing on the development of 5 key skill areas.

Possible Career Pathways:

Studying an A-level Biology related degree at university gives you all sorts of exciting career options, including:

- Doctor
- Clinical molecular geneticist
- Nature conservation officer
- Pharmacologist
- Research scientist
- Vet
- Secondary school teacher
- Marine biologist
- Dentist

Advised Entry Requirements:

Grade 6 in GCSE Science

Specification Link

<https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/biology/specifications/AQA-7401-7402-SP-2015.PDF>