

Biology GCSE

Curriculum Intent

GCSE study in the sciences provides the foundation for understanding the material world. Scientific understanding is changing our lives and is vital to world's future prosperity, and all learners should be taught essential aspects of the knowledge, methods, process and uses of science.

They should be helped to appreciate how the complex and diverse phenomena of the natural world can be described in terms of a small number of key ideas relating to the sciences which are both inter-linked, and are of universal application.

These key ideas include:

- the use of conceptual models and theories to make sense of the observed diversity of natural phenomena
- the assumption that every effect has one or more cause
- that change is driven by differences between different objects and systems when they interact
- that many such interactions occur over a distance and over time without direct contact
- that science progresses through a cycle of hypothesis, practical experimentation, observation, theory development and review
- that quantitative analysis is a central element both of many theories and of scientific methods of inquiry.
- Text Book ISBN : 978-0-19-835974-6

Qualification:

- ☐ OCR Gateway Biology (GCSE) [GCSE - Gateway Science Suite - Biology A \(9-1\) - J247](#)

Content

OCR's GCSE (9–1) in Biology A (Gateway Science) will encourage learners to:

- develop scientific knowledge and conceptual understanding of biology
- develop understanding of the nature, processes and methods of science, through different types of scientific enquiries that help them to answer scientific questions about the world around them
- develop and learn to apply observational, practical, modelling, enquiry and problem-solving skills, both in the laboratory, in the field and in other learning environments
- develop their ability to evaluate claims based on science through critical analysis of the methodology, evidence and conclusions, both qualitatively and quantitatively.

Biology
Content is split into six teaching topics B1-B6 and a practical activity skills topic B7: • Topic B1: Cell level systems • Topic B2: Scaling up • Topic B3: Organism level systems • Topic B4: Community level systems • Topic B5: Genes, inheritance and selection • Topic B6: Global challenges • Topic B7: Practical skills

Assessment

Written examination: 100%

Pupils will have the option of sitting foundation tier (Grades 5 to 1) or higher tier (Grades 9 to 4).

Both higher and foundation tier consist of two GCSE papers.

Biology: 2 x 90 mark papers of duration 1hr 45 mins (50% each)