Biology

AQA

Further information please email: mail@nhgs.co.uk



Entry Requirements

NHGS Sixth Form entry requirements including a Grade 6 or above in GCSE Biology or a minimum of two Grade 6s in Science at GCSE.

Aims of the Course

To develop essential knowledge and understanding of different areas of Biology and how they relate to each other. A Level Biology is a stepping stone to future study in a variety of different disciplines. We aim to develop the skills that are needed and inspire interest in the content.

Course structure and content

The course is taught in topics by two teachers, across five exam board modules:

Module 1 - Cells, Molecules, Transport and Immunity

Interactions of cells and their environments.

Module 2 - Exchange and Mass Transport

The exchange of materials and their transport around organisms.

Module 3 - Ecology and Metabolism

Distribution of organisms and their metabolic reactions.

Module 4 - Responding to Stimuli

Organisms responding to internal and external stimuli.

Module 5 - Inheritance, Gene Expression and Technology

Inheritance and evolution and the expression of DNA and development of genetic technologies.

Six of the twelve required practical experiments are covered in the Lower 6th, and six in the Upper 6th.

Year 1

Modules 1 and 2 extend the work covered at GCSE and underpin the understanding of biology, biological molecules, cells, how organisms exchange substances with their environment and genetic information and variation.

Year 2

Modules 3 to 5 build on content covered in year 1. These topics include energy transfers in and between organisms, how organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environment and the control of gene expression.

Assessment

At the end of the Lower 6th, students sit an exam on all of the Lower 6th content. This does not count towards the final grade, but assesses the content at this half-way point before progression to the Upper 6th.

The final A Level exams, at the end of the Upper 6th, are split into three separate papers and assess content from the whole two year course. There is also a separate, non-examinable Practical Endorsement which is assessed throughout the two years of the course.

Assessment 1 - 35% 2 hour written paper

Lower 6th content, including relevant practical skills (91 marks).

Assessment 2 - 35% 2 hour written paper

Upper 6th content, including relevant practical skills (91 marks).

Assessment 3 - 30% 2 hour written paper

Any content, including relevant practical skills (78 marks).

Future career opportunities

Biology leads to a broad range of future courses including Medicine and Dentistry, Applied Food Science, Physiotherapy, Pharmacy and Pharmacology, Neuroscience and Genetics, Evolutionary Biology and Microbiology to name a few!

Please scan here for further course information.