

Workington Academy - Sixth Form

Subject: Biology

Why you should study Biology

Biology is a complex and broad science. You will enjoy this course if you are interested in all aspects of living organisms, how they work and how they interact with their environment. You will develop a logical approach to problem solving combined with practical applications in experiments and fieldwork.

Examination Board: AQA

Course Content

- 1 Biological molecules
- 2 Cells
- 3 Organisms exchange substances with their environment
- 4 Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms
- 5 Energy transfers in and between organisms (A-level only)
- 6 Organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments (A-level only)
- 7 Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems (A-level only)
- 8 The control of gene expression (A-level only)

Assessment:

Paper 1

What is assessed

Any content from topics 1-4, including relevant practical skills

How you are assessed

- Written exam – 2 hours
- 91 marks
- 35% of A Level

Questions:

- 76 marks: a mixture of short and long answer questions
- 15 marks extended response questions

Paper 2

What is assessed

Any content from topics 5-8 including relevant practical skills

How you are assessed

- Written exam 2 hours
- 91 marks
- 35% of A level

Questions

- 76 marks: a mixture of short and long answer questions
- 15 marks: comprehension question

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Paper 3

What is assessed

Any contents from topics 1-8, including relevant practical skills

How you are assessed

- Written exam: 2 hours
- 78 marks
- 30% of A level

Questions

- 38 marks: structured questions, including practical techniques
- 15 marks: critical analysis of given experimental data
- 25 marks: one essay from a choice of two titles

Skills Developed, Progression and Possible Future Careers

A Level Biology can open up a range of careers and higher education courses in Medicine; Veterinary Science and Dentistry; Optometry; Physiotherapy; Pharmaceutical Sciences; Forensic Science; Biomedical and Biological Sciences; Environmental Health and Food Sciences. A Level Biology can also help gain direct entry into employment, especially into the scientific and related sectors.