A Level Biology

What will I study?

Biology is the science of life, the study of living organisms and the processes that sustain them. In this course, you'll delve into fundamental topics such as cell biology, biological molecules, genetics, evolution, biodiversity, and ecology. You'll also explore human physiology, including the circulatory, nervous, and immune systems. Practical work is central to the course, helping you develop essential skills in planning, conducting, and evaluating experiments. Throughout, you'll examine how biology connects to real-world challenges like climate change, disease, and advances in biotechnology.

How will I be assessed?

This AQA A level Biology course is assessed through three written exam papers at the end of the second year, which test your understanding of both theoretical content and practical skills. You will also complete required practicals throughout the course, which are assessed separately and lead to a practical endorsement.

What are the entry requirements?

To study A Level Biology, you must have five GCSEs at grade 5 or above (including English Language at grade 5 and Maths at grade 4), with GCSE Maths at grade 6 and Combined Science at grades 6–6 or equivalent including Biology, and if you are not studying A Level Maths, you will be required to take Core Maths alongside the course.

Where will this course lead?

Biology A level is a gateway to a wide range of university degrees, including medicine, dentistry, veterinary science, biological sciences, environmental science, and nursing. It also supports progression to degree-level apprenticeships in healthcare and science-related fields. You can also continue your studies at Milton Keynes College through our Higher Education programmes in health and science. Career opportunities include roles in research, healthcare, conservation, pharmaceuticals, and biotechnology.

What combines well with this subject?

Biology combines well with Chemistry, Mathematics, Psychology, and Geography. These subjects complement the analytical, practical, and theoretical aspects of Biology and support progression into science and Healthcare careers.