

Biology



at RHB Sixth Form

Biology is at *the forefront of some of the biggest challenges facing us in the 21st century*, from *conservation* of endangered species to overcoming *antibiotic resistance* and developing methods that can be used to increase crop growth for an ever-growing population. Biology allows you to *question* and *challenge* these issues in order to create a more sustainable and healthy future.

“The course has a lovely harmony of theoretical knowledge and nuanced practical working, delving into every inch of the living world. Zooming into minute processes like photosynthesis and respiration has been the most fascinating for me, being able to comprehend the sheer length and detail of each at such a small scale.”

KASHUF, RHB ALUMNA

COURSE OUTLINE

Biology A Level is a multidisciplinary course covering a broad range of topics from Biochemistry and the structure of Biological molecules and cells, to genetics, control of gene expression and our role in the ecosystem. Practical skills, data analysis and mathematical skills are woven into the topics and students are required to apply knowledge to unfamiliar contexts and connect ideas across different topics and areas of the specification.

Theoretical knowledge and the focus on current practical techniques will support your development as a future scientist. You will learn about the core concepts of biology and about the impact of biological research and how it links to everyday life. You will learn to apply your knowledge, investigate and solve problems in a range of contexts.

At A level the students follow the AQA A Level Biology specification, which is composed of 8 key topics and 12 core practicals which are completed in class and assessed over the two-year course. There is no coursework, however relevant required practical knowledge will be assessed in all papers.

The course is assessed as follows:

Paper 1 (35%) 2 hours

Paper 2 (35%) 2 hours

Paper 3 (30%) 2 hours

There is a residential field trip in the summer term in which students will put their understanding of ecosystems and human impacts into practice, further developing fieldwork techniques alongside experts in their field.

WHERE COULD THIS COURSE TAKE ME?

Further Education

RHB Biology students have gone on to a number of exciting courses at top universities, recently including Marine Biology at University of Exeter, Biology with a modern language at Manchester University, Biochemistry at Kings College London, Medicine at Oxford, Biomedical Sciences at UWE and York University.



**ROYAL HIGH
BATH**

G D S T
GIRLS' DAY SCHOOL TRUST

Careers

Studying A-Level Biology opens-up a wide range of career opportunities, particularly in the fields of science, healthcare and the environment. Those who study Biology could go on to have careers in Medicine, Dentistry, Nursing, Pharmacology, Physiotherapy, Scientific research, Biotechnology, Forensics, Ecology, Marine Biology, Teaching and Public Health to name a few.

ENRICHMENT

Students taking Biology in the Sixth Form are invited to take part in, and help lead, many KS3 clubs including Science Club and Dissection Club. This is an excellent opportunity to develop leadership, organisational and communication skills which are much sought after by universities and employers. There is a comprehensive Medical Society open to all interested in a career in Health Sciences.

Those taking Science in the Sixth Form can apply to become our 'Science Prefect' responsible for developing and promoting activities within the department.

HEAD OF SUBJECT

Sinead Duignan

EXAM BOARD

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