

NORTHGATE
SIXTH FORM
CENTRE IPSWICH



BIOLOGY

A-LEVEL

2020-2021

Biology at Northgate

Awarding body: OCR

Entry requirements: One of the following options:

- GCSE grade 6 in Combined Science or
- GCSE grade 6 in Biology

What will you study?

We follow the OCR Biology A specification.

- A Level Biology consists of six modules:
- Development of practical skills in biology
- Foundations in biology
- Exchange and transport
- Biodiversity, evolution and disease
- Communication, homeostasis and energy
- Genetics, evolution and ecosystems

How do you choose whether to study Biology?

- If you want to study biology, you do not have to do chemistry, but it may help in some units.
- Biology A Level is suitable if you wish to follow a career in medicine, veterinary science, dentistry, physiotherapy, forensic science, paramedical services, conservation, agriculture, forestry or any biological science (e.g. marine biology, ecology, physiology, genetics).
- If you have a genuine interest in finding out more about living organisms and you want to study a science at A level, this subject is for you.

How will you be taught?

- You will be taught in a variety of ways, sometimes working on your own and sometimes working in a group. Independent study tasks will be set to improve your study skills.
- Practical work is a very important part of the course. It involves carrying out detailed scientific procedures, recording results, making conclusions and evaluating data.
- Homework is an essential part of study at A Level. Your teachers will regularly set research tasks, past examination questions and experimental analysis and evaluation tasks. You will be given constructive feedback to help you make progress.
- You will sit frequent end of topic tests to help you and your teachers assess the progress that you are making.

How will you be assessed?

A Level: Modules 1 to 6 are assessed by three written examinations in June of Year 13.

Students will also complete practical work throughout the two year course and will build up a practical portfolio on which they will be assessed. This will lead to a separately reported practical endorsement in biology.

Curriculum Leaders: Miss H Mosley
Miss R Mitchell

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