

## What is the course about?

Biology covers a wide range of topics, from investigating the molecular and cellular function of living organisms to the interactions between populations and whole communities of animals and plants.

Students will gain a strong understanding of biological concepts but also develop the skills to describe, explain, predict and analyse the biotic and abiotic factors which influence the world.

### Course content

Students study topics including:

- Biological molecules, DNA, cells and the immune system exchange and transport, genes, genetic diversity and biodiversity.
- Detailed study of photosynthesis, respiration, energy transfer in ecosystems.
- In-depth analysis of inheritance, gene expression and the development and application of gene technology.
- Homeostasis, muscles, the nervous system, and whole organism biology including taxis, population biology and ecosystem ecology

There is an important focus on developing practical skills with students needing to complete a series of 12 required practicals.

### Assessment

Three terminal examinations.

Successful completion of a series of practical activities will lead to the student being awarded a practical endorsement to the A Level.

## Career pathways

Study biology or science related degree courses at higher education.

Employment opportunities: agriculture, ecology, zoology, plant sciences, biotechnology, food science, and marine biology, biological research research, or conservation of endangered animals.

## Entry criteria

Minimum of five grade 4 to 9s at GCSE, including English and Maths, and at least a 6:6 in combined GCSE Science or a grade 6 in Biology separate sciences.