

Course information for Parents

Keystage: 5 (Year 12 and Year 13) Subject: Biology

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Examination Board	AQA	Specification Code	7401-7402
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Subject Content

2.1 Subject content

Core content

- 1 [Biological molecules](#) (page 11)
- 2 [Cells](#) (page 19)
- 3 [Organisms exchange substances with their environment](#) (page 25)
- 4 [Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms](#) (page 30)
- 5 [Energy transfers in and between organisms](#) (A-level only) (page 36)
- 6 [Organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments](#) (A-level only) (page 41)
- 7 [Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems](#) (A-level only) (page 47)
- 8 [The control of gene expression](#) (A-level only) (page 51)

2.2 AS

Assessments

Paper 1	+	Paper 2
What's assessed		What's assessed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any content from topics 1–4, including relevant practical skills 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any content from topics 1–4, including relevant practical skills
Assessed		Assessed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes • 75 marks • 50% of AS 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes • 75 marks • 50% of AS
Questions		Questions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 65 marks: short answer questions • 10 marks: comprehension question 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 65 marks: short answer questions • 10 marks: extended response questions

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2.3 A-level

Assessments

Paper 1	+	Paper 2	+	Paper 3
What's assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any content from topics 1– 4, including relevant practical skills 		What's assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any content from topics 5–8, including relevant practical skills 		What's assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any content from topics 1–8, including relevant practical skills
Assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> written exam: 2 hours 91 marks 35% of A-level 		Assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> written exam: 2 hours 91 marks 35% of A-level 		Assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> written exam: 2 hours 78 marks 30% of A-level
Questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 76 marks: a mixture of short and long answer questions 15 marks: extended response questions 		Questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 76 marks: a mixture of short and long answer questions 15 marks: comprehension question 		Questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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

Additional Equipment Needed (Ingredients, headphones, PE kit, etc.)

- Calculator for every Science lesson
- Lab coat for practicals

Assessment Details:

To be successful students will need to be able to:

- Develop revision techniques using their classroom notes and revision guides.
- Complete exam style questions in the classroom (personalised learning), a minimum of once a week.
- Complete one end of topic assessment and one overview assessment each term.
- Carry out a minimum of 6 required practicals across each academic year (see full specification for details)
- Be able to recall details of these for their exams.

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What can I do to support my child at home?

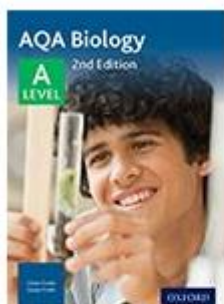
- Learning key words and definitions provided in their AQA Biology book.
- Ensure diagnostic homework on DIRT tasks is completed.
- Ask your child to explain what they have learnt today.
- Encourage your child to read Biological related topics in scientific journals.
- Provide students with extra revision guides and/or workbooks **linked to the specification** e.g.:
- https://www.amazon.co.uk/GCSE-Biology-Revision-Guide-Science/dp/1408508281/ref=sr_1_4?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1467880724&sr=1-4&keywords=aqa+as+biology+revision+guides
- Use revision websites to make revision notes e.g.
<http://www.alevelbiology.co.uk/as2.html>

Recommended resources for the course:

Websites: : <http://www.alevelbiology.co.uk/as2.html>
<http://www.biology-innovation.co.uk>
<http://www.mrothery.co.uk>

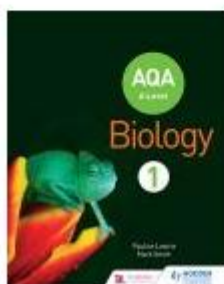
Books:

A-level Biology for AQA Student Book



Authors: Glenn Toole, Susan Toole
 Publisher: Oxford University Press (including Nelson Thornes)
 ISBN-13: 978-0-19-835177-1
 Price: £40
 Publication date: May 2015
 Digital version available: Details TBC

AQA A-level Biology Year 1 Student Book



Authors: Pauline Lowrie, Mark Smith
 Publisher: Hodder Education
 ISBN-13: 978-1-4718-0761-9
 Price: £24.99
 Publication date: March 2015 - Out now
 Digital version available: March 2015

Teaching Staff Contact Details

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Additional Information:			