

Biology

Subject Information Sheet

Course Title:	Biology
Subject:	Biology
Qualification:	GCE AS and A level
Exam Board:	OCR Specification A
General Course Description	Studying biology will enable you to find out why your siblings look like you do, find out how medicines work, what DNA is, whether clones really exist, and who Darwin was, for example. We hope that the course will promote curiosity, develop your understand of complex biological ideas and inspire the new generation of biologists.
Course Content and Teaching Units	<p>Modules 1-4 will be taught in Y12. Modules 5-6 are taught in Y13, however all modules are revisited as exams are linear.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Module 1- Development of practical skills in biology • Module 2 – Foundations in biology • Module 3- Exchange and transport • Module 4- Biodiversity, evolution and disease • Module 5- Communication, homeostasis and energy • Module 6- Genetics, evolution and ecosystems
Entry Requirements	<p>Grade 6 or higher in GCSE Triple Biology and a grade 5 in GCSE Maths and English.</p> <p>Combined science students require a grade 7 to be considered on a case-by-case basis.</p>

Assessment	<u>At the end of Y12 you will sit the following mock examinations:</u>		
	Paper	Structure	What is it worth?
	Breadth in biology	Covers content in modules 1-4 Multiple choice and short answer questions	50% of mock
	Depth in biology	Covers content in modules 1-4 Extended response questions	50% of mock
	<u>At the end of Y13 you will sit the following external examinations:</u>		
	Paper	Structure	What is it worth?
	Paper 1- Biological principles	This paper will assess content from modules 1, 2, 3 and 5	37% of your overall A level qualification
	Paper 2- Biological diversity	This paper will assess content from modules 1, 2, 4 and 6	37% of your overall A level qualification
	Paper 3- Unified biology	This paper will assess content from all modules (1-6)	26% of your overall A level qualification
		Practical skills will be assessed throughout both years. Evidence for this will be recorded in a work book.	
Financial Information	<p>Approximately £95 will be required at the beginning of Y13 to cover the cost of the biology field course to Scarborough, however in the event of genuine financial hardship other arrangements can be made.</p> <p>Revision guides are provided free of charge.</p> <p>Revision workbooks will also be provided free of charge to support learning during the additional independent study sessions. Extra workbooks are available to purchase from school at a reduced rate.</p>		
Progression Opportunities	<p>A Level Biology is clearly a specialised science qualification, thus providing an excellent foundation for further study of Medicine, Veterinary Science, Biotechnology, Physiotherapy, Microbiology, Sport Science and all aspects of Biology.</p>		

Further Information about our courses including results	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The biology department at KES achieved outstanding results – last year 62% of A2 students achieved grades A*-B. This means we are in the top 25% in the country for our 3 year ALPS average.• Three of last year's students have gone on to study Medicine, one at Cambridge University.• Period 6 enhancement sessions provided for Y13 students prior to examinations.
Trips, visits and extra-curricular	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scarborough field trip – Our annual, very successful Ecology field course that provides students with valuable life experience, as well as practical skills required for their practical endorsement qualification.• Biology Olympiad run every year for any student who would like to enter and compete nationally.