How is the qualification assessed?

A Level Biology: 3 Written papers

A Level paper 1 - Biological processes (135 mins)

37% weighting
Structured and multiple choice questions
Assesses modules 1,2,3 and 5

A Level paper 2 - Biological diversity (135 mins)

37% weighting
Structured and multiple choice questions
Assesses modules 1,2,4 and 6

A Level paper 1 - Unified Biology (90 mins)

26% weighting
Structured questions only
Assesses modules 1,2,3,4, 5 and 6

Practical Endorsement

The A Level also has a Pass/Fail practical endorsement which is assessed over a minimum of 12 practical activities in class. The result is reported separately to the A Level grade.

3D model of DNA

Entry requirements for Biology A Level at Collingwood College

Minimum Qualifications

Minimum of 5 GCSEs at Grade 9-4 (or equivalent), including grade 6-6 in Combined Science or grade 6 in Biology and grade 6 in Mathematics.

Experience shows that your chances of success are greater in this subject if you have at least Grade 5 in English.

Some additional information

Students need to be motivated and keen to learn. A Level Biology is hard work but extremely rewarding.

References from previous Science tutors may be requested to support an application to study Biology.

Contact Dr S Adams (Head of Science) should you require any further information at:

s.adams@collingwood.surrey.sch.uk

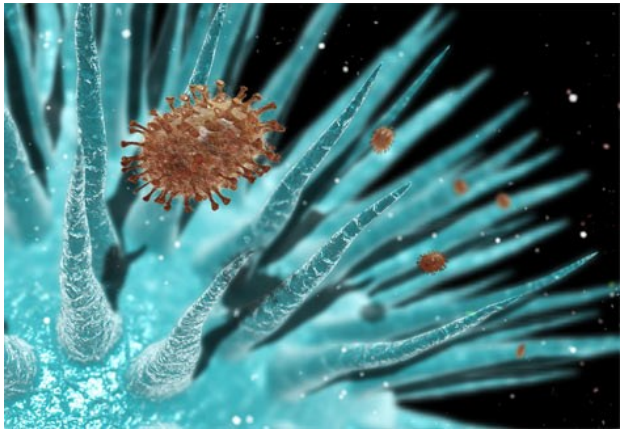
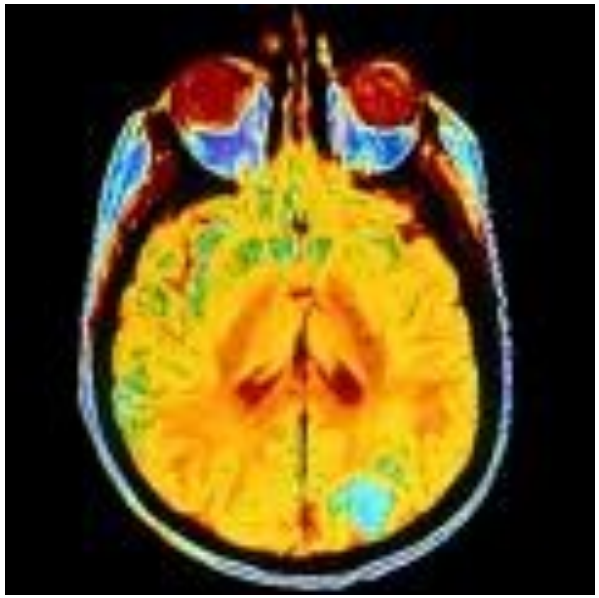


Photo of the flu virus

Collingwood College
BELIEVE SUCCEED

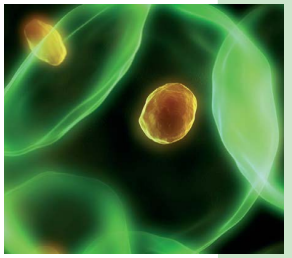
A Level Biology



OCR Biology A Level

Qualification Information

OCR A Level Biology



- The specification is divided into 6 modules each covering different key concepts in Biology. Applications of Biology are covered throughout the specification. The broad contents of each module is overleaf.
- There is less emphasis on recall and more on understanding and application.
- Students take written examinations as detailed overleaf at the end of the A Level course.
- We offer a number of trips over the 2 year course to enhance learning.
- A recognised qualification for university degree courses including biochemistry, pharmacology, ecology, biological sciences, medicine, dentistry and veterinary sciences to name only a few.

Module 1: Development of practical skills

- Skills for scientific investigations
- Planning
- Implementation
- Analysis
- Evaluation

Module 2: Foundations in Biology

- Cell structure, diversity and organisation
- Biological membranes
- Cell division
- Biological molecules (nucleic acids, proteins, enzymes, lipid, carbohydrates)

Module 3: Exchange and transport

- Exchange surfaces
- Transport in animals
- Transport in plants

Module 4: Biodiversity, evolution, and disease

- Communicable diseases
- Disease prevention
- The immune system
- Biodiversity
- Classification and evolution

Module 5: Communications, homeostasis and energy

- Communication and homeostasis
- Excretion as an example of homeostatic control
- Neuronal and hormonal communication
- Plant and animal responses
- Photosynthesis
- Respiration

Module 6: Genetics, evolution and ecosystems

- Cellular control
- Patterns of inheritance
- Manipulating genomes, cloning and biotechnology
- Ecosystems
- Populations and sustainability