Carshalton Boys A level

Biology

The aims of Biology A Level are to enable students to develop their interest in and enthusiasm for Biology, including developing an interest in further study and careers in the subject.

Students will study not only theoretical aspects of Biology, but also current and innovative issues such as Gene Therapy, Cloning and Forensic technologies. Students will also hone their practical skills by planning experiments, collecting data, analysing experimental results and justifying conclusions. Through the course you will also learn how scientific models are developed, the applications and implications of science in everyday life, the benefits and risks that science brings and the ways in which society uses science to make decisions.

Is Biology the right subject for you?
A Level Biology is suitable for you if you:

- have an interest in and enjoy Biology and want to find out about how things work in the natural world by the application of creative, logical thinking;
- want to use Biology to progress into Higher Education or support other qualifications or enter Biology-based employment;
- are taking A Levels in the other sciences and/or mathematics or other relevant courses such as Physical Education and want to take another course that will support those studies.

ASSESSMENT and CONTENT

At AS Level there are four topics, in the form of two papers, each accounting for 50% of the AS grade, these are examined at the end of the year in two 75-mark questions. Both papers will assess practical skills with at least 10% of the paper assessing KS5 mathematical skills.

Paper 1 (1 hour and 30 minutes)
Paper 2 (1 hour and 30 minutes)

At A Level there are three papers. Each will assess practical skills and mathematical skills along with the content highlighted below:

Paper 1 (2 hours) - 35%
Paper 2 (2 hours) - 35%
Paper 3 (2 hours) - 30% which includes one essay from a choice of two titles

The course requirements...

Grade 77 or higher in double award (eg Trilogy) GCSE Science or Separate GCSE Biology Grade 7. Additionally, a Grade 6 or higher in GCSE English and Mathematics is required.