Biology

Biology is the science of life — and it is all around you. From how your body trains, fuels and recovers, to how diseases spread and how ecosystems survive, Biology explains the world you're part of every day.

It is also a subject at the cutting edge of discovery. News stories about life-saving medical breakthroughs, genetic engineering, climate change and new technologies are all driven by Biology. This is a subject for pupils who are curious, who ask questions, and who want to understand how things really work.

The GCSE course is designed to challenge and engage. Pupils develop a strong understanding of living systems while learning how to think scientifically, analyse evidence and solve problems — skills that are highly valued far beyond the classroom.

You will study a wide range of topics, including cells, human biology, disease, genetics, evolution and ecology. Lessons are brought to life through practical work, where pupils take an active role in experiments such as extracting DNA, investigating enzymes, and exploring real ecosystems. These hands-on experiences build confidence, independence and key investigative skills.

Assessment is through two written examinations at the end of Year 11. Each paper lasts 1 hour 45 minutes and includes a mix of question styles, from multiple choice to extended responses. Further details are available on the AQA website.

GCSE Biology is an excellent foundation for A Level study and opens the door to careers in medicine, dentistry, veterinary science, sports science and many other fields. Just as importantly, it develops a deeper understanding of your own body and the living world — knowledge that stays with you for life.

At a Glance

Exam Board
AQA

Assessment Type
2 exams (1hour 45 minutes each)

Head of Department
M Randall
m.randall@lsf.org