

Separate Sciences: Biology

GCSE

Exam Board: AQA
Course Code: 8461

Biology course overview

Separate Science: Biology is a single award GCSE through AQA, studied alongside Chemistry and Physics. In total, a successful candidate is awarded three GCSEs in Science at the end of the course.

Life ranges in size from microscopic bacteria to towering redwood trees over 100 metres tall. All of life on Earth is composed of cells, understanding the function of these cells and their processes is essential to understanding the processes of life. Students will have the opportunity to explore the unseen microscopic world around us, follow the journey of food to fuel, and model astonishing medical breakthroughs of the 21st Century.

In addition, a range of scientific skills will be developed and assessed. Skills are of three key categories; scientific literacy, scientific numeracy, and scientific enquiry. These skills will be assessed in the final exams.

How is the course assessed?

GCSE Biology is assessed via two exams at the end of Year 11, each exam is 105 minutes long, and have equivalent weighting.

Is this course for you?

The Separate Science course is most appropriate to those high ability students with an interest in science. Students must be prepared to work independently to ensure they are well equipped and well prepared for their exams.

What could this course lead to?

Students of Separate Science often go on to study the sciences further at A-level and beyond. A career in science is easier to attain with good grades on the Separate Science course in comparison to completing the Combined Science course. Careers in science include medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, drug development, engineering, and data analytics.

Who can I contact for further advice or support?

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