



St Margaret Ward  
Catholic Academy  
Sixth Form

# BIOLOGY

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# A LEVEL

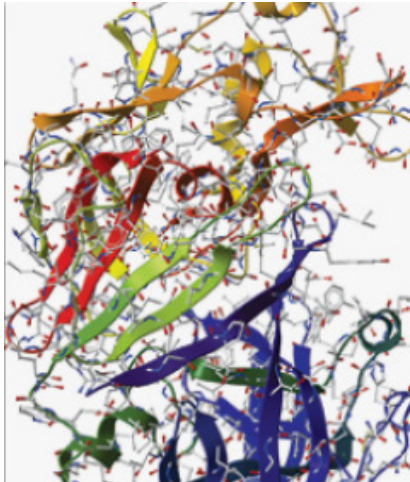
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# BIOLOGY

## **What is the level of course I will take?**

A Level Biology with AQA.



## **What level of GCSEs do I need to take this course?**

Minimum of 5 x GCSE grade 5 including a Grade 6 minimum in GCSE Biology or Grade 6-6 in Combined Science.

## **How will I be assessed?**

3 written exams are in year 13  
Throughout the 2 years students are also assessed for their practical skills. A pass in this is required by most Universities, regardless of your choice in course.

Written assessments include questions about practicals, a range of question types, including extended answers, comprehension, critical analysis and an essay.

## **Course Content**

Biological molecules: Structure and function of the building blocks of life including monosaccharides, DNA, ATP

Cells: the structure of eukaryotic and prokaryotic cells and how scientists study them

Organisms exchange substances with their environment: Gas exchange, digestion and absorption and mass transport in plants

Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms: Cell division, mutations, protein synthesis, adaptations, diversity in environments

Energy transfers in and between organisms: Photosynthesis, respiration, food chains and nutrient cycles

Organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments: Nervous coordination and homeostasis

Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems: Inheritance, evolution and ecosystems.

The control of gene expression: Transcription, translation, recombinant DNA technology, DNA and cancer and DNA fingerprinting.

## **How will the course help me after Sixth Form?**

Careers for biologists exist in areas other than medicine, veterinary science, dentistry or farming. Biologists find employment in horticulture, pharmacy, biochemistry, microbiology, brewing and distilling. For courses in medicine and veterinary science it is not sufficient to be good at Biology, you must excel in all your sciences at A-level and across the board at GCSE. For medicine some universities require you to take Biology alongside the compulsory Chemistry A-level.



For further information,  
scan the below QR code

