

Biology

The specification is comprised of 5 units. The AS level is assessed by means of 2 written exam papers each worth 50% of the AS and 20% of the A level qualification. These written exams are both sat in the summer of year 12. The A level is assessed by means of 2 written exam papers and a practical exam. The written exams are both sat in the summer of year 13. The practical exam is done during year 13.

Contact: Dr B. Snow

Course Content and Structure

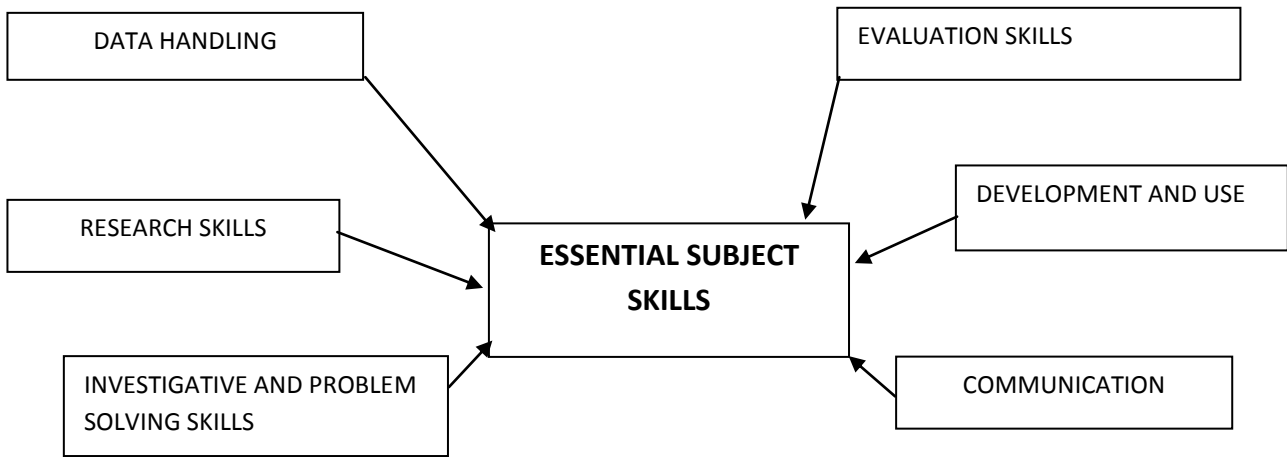
Advanced Subsidiary (AS)	Advanced Level (A2)
<p>UNIT 1: Basic Biochemistry and Cell Organisation</p> <p>The unit incorporates the biochemistry and structure which is fundamental to the functioning of living organisms; structure and function of biological compounds and enzymes; basic cell structure and organisation; cell division; cell membranes; membrane transport.</p> <p>Weighting: AS 50% A level 20%</p>	<p>UNIT 3: Energy, Homeostasis and the Environment</p> <p>The study of processes involved in energy production in all organisms; structure and function of the kidney and the nervous system; study of ecosystems and mans effect on the environment; basic microbiology.</p> <p>Weighting: A level 25%</p>
<p>UNIT 2: Biodiversity and Physiology of Body Systems,</p> <p>The study of the biodiversity of living organisms that exist today and their classification. How this diversity organisms have different adaptations for gas exchange, transport within their body and nutrition.</p> <p>Weighting: AS 50% A level 20%</p>	<p>UNIT 4: Variation, Inheritance and Options</p> <p>This unit involves the study of sexual reproduction in humans; sexual reproduction in plants; inheritance; variation and evolution; application of reproduction and genetics.</p> <p>Weighting: A level 25%</p>
<p>There is no practical exam for AS level.</p> <p>Specified practical work will be carried out throughout the AS course. Each pupil will be expected to keep a lab book recording all practical work done throughout the year.</p>	<p>UNIT 5: Practical exam</p> <p>Specified practical work will be carried out throughout the A2 course. Pupils will be expected to keep a lab book recording all practical work done. In addition there will be 2 practical exams set by the WJEC. An Experimental task to be completed in the lab, and a written Practical Analysis task.</p> <p>Weighting: A level 10%.</p>
<p>AS = units 1 and 2 Complete A level = units 1,2,3,4 and 5.</p>	



Assessment:

Year 12 AS (2 Units)	Year 13 A2 (3 Units)
Unit 1 - 1½ hour examination – June Unit 2 - 1½ hour examination – June	Unit 3 – 2 hour examination – June Unit 4 – 2 hour examination – June Unit 5 – 2 hour experimental task; 1 hour practical analysis. Set during year 13.

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Progression at 18+:

Medicine, Veterinary, Dentistry, Nursing, Equine Studies, Dietician, Radiographer, Physiotherapy,
Teaching, Lab Technician, Genetics, Marine Biology, Environmental Biology, Zoology

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