Subject : Edexcel A Level Biology B

With a Biology A-level, you can normally study further sciences at university such as Forensic Biology, Biology, Human Biology, Physiotherapy, Animal Biology, Ecology, Molecular Biology, Biochemistry, Botany, Zoology, Parasitology, Aquatic Bioscience, Genetics, Virology. The list of career opportunities is varied, including teaching and research, biological science and technology, medical and health services, genetic counselling, health education, biochemistry, environmental health, pharmaceutical/medical product sales and marine biology.

What are the entry requirements?

Grade 7-7 in GCSE combined Science
Grade 7 in Separate Science

What will I study?

- **Biological Molecules**
- **Cells and Viruses**
- **Classification**
- **Exchange and Transport**
- **Energy for Biological Processes**
- **Microbiology and Pathogens**
- **Modern Genetics.**
- **Origins of Genetic Variation**
- **Control Systems**
- **Ecosystems.**

You will enjoy this course if:

You have in interest in how the body and plants work. Have good practical skills

Have good analytical, research, problem solving and organisation skills

How will my work be assessed?

The qualification is linear, Students will sit their exams at the end of the A level course

Paper 1: Advanced Biochemistry, Microbiology and Genetics

Topics 1 – 7

Assessment is 1 hour 45 minutes.

● The paper consists of 90 marks.

● The paper may include multiple-choice, short open, open-response, calculations and extended writing questions.

● The paper will include questions that target mathematics at Level 2 or above (see Appendix 6: Mathematical skills and exemplifications). Overall, a minimum of 10% of the marks across the three papers will be awarded for mathematics at Level 2 or above.

Paper 2: Advanced Physiology, Evolution and Ecology

Topics 1- 4 and 8 – 10

Assessment is 1 hour 45 minutes.

● The paper consists of 90 marks.

● The paper may include multiple-choice, short open, open-response, calculations and extended writing questions.

● The paper will include questions that target mathematics at Level 2 or above (see Appendix 6: Mathematical skills and exemplifications). Overall, a minimum of 10% of the marks across the three papers will be awarded for mathematics at Level 2 or above.

Paper 3: General and Practical Principles in Biology

This paper will include questions from Topics 1−10.

Assessment is 2 hours 30 minutes.

● The paper consists of 120 marks.

● The paper may include short open, open-response, calculations and extended writing questions.

● The paper will include synoptic questions that may draw on two or more different topics.

● The paper will include questions that target mathematics at Level 2 or above (see Appendix 6: Mathematical skills and exemplifications). Overall, a minimum of 10% of the marks across the three papers will be awarded for mathematics at Level 2 or above.

● The paper will include questions that target the conceptual and theoretical understanding of experimental methods.

Science Practical Endorsement

Internally assessed and externally monitored by Pearson.

Students' practical work will be assessed by teachers, using common practical assessment criteria (CPAC) that are consistent across exam boards.

Students who demonstrate the required standard across all the requirements of the CPAC will receive a ‘pass’ grade.

Students may work in groups but teachers who award a pass to their students need to be confident of individual students’ competence.

The correct application of CPAC to students' work will be monitored through a system of visits to centres. These visits will be coordinated across the exam boards by JCQ, to ensure that all centres are visited regularly.