



CITY OF LONDON ACADEMY
ISLINGTON

WHERE STUDENTS SUCCEED

Biology

A Level Biology:

Why choose this subject?

Biology at A level takes the building blocks of life and begins an in depth analysis into everything that makes us what we are. Unravel the secrets of DNA, study the growth of cells and investigate entire populations of living creatures, all possible through the application of skills and principles covered in this course.

Biology is an excellent gateway into many other fields of study, sitting neatly between the social sciences of psychology and sociology and the micro worlds of chemistry and physics and complements any other courses with an analytical and methodical approach that can be used in any walk of life.

Who takes this course?

Anyone with a grasp of scientific principles can take biology and make what they want out of it. With so many cutting edge sciences focusing around the life sciences, it opens doors for anyone wanting to proceed to higher education, or even those wishing to apply their skills in an apprenticeship.

Where will success take me?

Doctor, Paramedic, Researcher, Wildlife photographer, Gamekeeper, Reserve warden, Zoologist, Forensic scientist, Conservationist, Vet, Psychologist, Geneticist, Farmer, Oceanographer, Writer, Explorer, the choices are vast.

What Will I Be Studying?

In the first year you'll cover foundation subjects like health, genetics, protein synthesis and biodiversity. A series of Core practical experiments enriches this process and links directly to the new content being learned.

Year two includes ecology, infection, forensics, anatomy and the brain, with a new series of practical experiments to help apply skills to real world situations.

Will it fit in my life?

Biology quite literally *is* life. Everyone benefits from understand what we are, where we came from and how we develop, but keen scientists and aspirant doctors will gain the most benefit.

Why study Biology at COLA-I?

The Biology route at COLA-I is Pearson Salters Nuffield. The course is context-led and topics are based on a storyline and contemporary issues. Difficult concepts are easily accessible with this approach

At COLA-I we provide individual support for our students with intervention sessions, resources, revision and exam materials are provided for all.

Entry Criteria

5 (9-6) grades at GCSE, plus a minimum of a grade 6 in Combined Science or Triple Biology.

How will I be assessed?

You will sit 3 papers at the end of Year 13

Paper 1: The Natural Environment and Species Survival

- Questions draw on content from Topics 1–6.
 - The assessment is 2 hours.
 - The assessment consists of 100 marks.
- 33.33% of the total qualification

Paper 2: Energy, Exercise and Co-ordination

- Questions draw on content from Topics 1–4 and 7–8.
 - The assessment is 2 hours.
 - The assessment consists of 100 marks.
- 33.33% of the total qualification

Paper 3: General and Practical Applications in Biology

- Questions draw on content from across all topics, Topics 1–8.
 - The paper will include synoptic questions that may draw on two or more different topics.
 - A pre-released scientific article will underpin one section of the paper. The pre-release will be available 8 weeks before the examination.
 - The assessment is 2 hours.
 - The assessment consists of 100 marks.
- 33.33% of the total qualification