

BIOLOGY

Salter's Nuffield Biology SNAB

Edexcel AS level specification 8BI01

"An understanding of the natural world and what's in it is a source of not only a great curiosity but great fulfilment." David Attenbrough

Unit	Unit Title	Duration	Mode of Assessment	Weighting at AS
1	Lifestyle, Transport, Genes and Health	1 hours 15 minutes	Written examination paper	40%
2	Development, Plants and the Environment	1 hours 15 minutes	Written examination paper	40%
3	Practical Biology & Research Skills	Throughout the year	Centre assessed report	20%

SNAB presents the key concepts in Biology today, combined with a structured approach to learning the wider skills needed by the modern Biologist. The content is taught through 4 context-led contemporary topics.

Classes are small, allowing a good deal of individual attention and feedback during both theory and practical lessons. All teaching takes place in new well-equipped laboratories.

Students wishing to take AS Biology should consider taking AS Chemistry as a companion subject. This is particularly important to those considering a career in Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science, Environmental Science or the Biological Sciences.

In Biology, much hard work and dedication are required. In addition to set work, girls must read around each topic for themselves in order to gain the full benefit from their lessons.

Style of work:

Activities incorporate, amongst other things, practical work, debates, discussions, research and role plays. Employing a wide range of learning styles, the activities introduce content, skills, and experimental techniques.

Skills include data analysis, critical evaluation of information, communication and collaborative work. Developing these types of skills is an integral part of the SNAB course. Independent learning is a valuable attribute which students will develop as a result of carrying out the activities.

The minimum recommended for entry to AS Biology is a grade BB in GCSE Dual Award Science or a grade B in GCSE Biology. Other equivalent qualifications may be acceptable.

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Salter's Nuffield Biology SNAB

Edexcel A2 level specification 9BIO1

"It seems to me that the natural world is the greatest source of excitement; the greatest source of visual beauty; the greatest source of intellectual interest. It is the greatest source of so much in life that makes life worth living." David Attenborough

Unit	Unit Title	Duration	Mode of Assessment	Weighting of total GCE
4	The Natural Environment and Species Survival	1 hour 30 minutes	Written examination paper	20%
5	Energy, Exercise and Coordination	1 hour 30 minutes	Written examination paper	20%
6	Practical Biology and Investigative Skills	Throughout the year	Centre assessed report	10%

The work at the A2 level is a natural continuation and expansion of the material studied at AS level. The full A level is a sound basis for studying university courses involving any biological content or it may stand as a good academic A level for entry to other non-biological courses.

Unit 4 explores photosynthesis, energy transfer within ecosystems, evidence for global warming, evolution through natural selection and speciation, nutrient recycling, DNA profiling and PCR, structure of bacteria and viruses, infectious diseases (eg AIDS and TB) and immunology.

Unit 5 covers ATP, glycolysis, anaerobic/aerobic respiration, control and functioning of the heart; ventilation and cardiac output, homeostasis, impact of exercise on body, the nervous system, and improving performance, hormonal coordination, brain structure and development, imbalances in brain chemicals, and the Human Genome Project.

For Unit 6 students produce a written report of an experimental investigation that they have devised and carried out.

Girls can expect to achieve a good understanding of modern biology which would fit them for many different university courses and can lead to careers in medicine, veterinary science, environmental science, agriculture, pathology, embryology, DNA analysis, forensics, limnology and oceanography, to name but a few.

