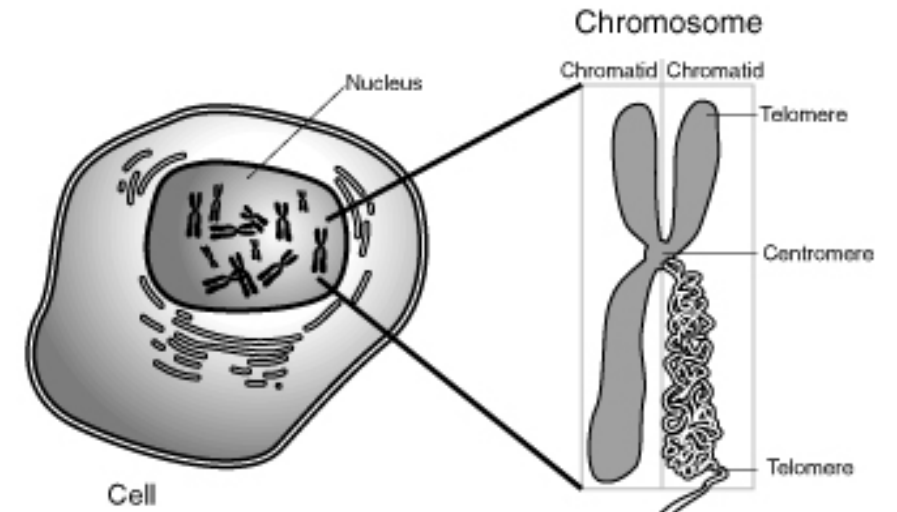


A LEVEL



Assessments

How am I assessed???

Paper 1	+	Paper 2	+	Paper 3
What's assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none">Any content from topics 1– 4, including relevant practical skills		What's assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none">Any content from topics 5–8, including relevant practical skills		What's assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none">Any content from topics 1–8, including relevant practical skills
Assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none">written exam: 2 hours91 marks35% of A-level		Assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none">written exam: 2 hours91 marks35% of A-level		Assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none">written exam: 2 hours78 marks30% of A-level
Questions <ul style="list-style-type: none">76 marks: a mixture of short and long answer questions15 marks: extended response questions		Questions <ul style="list-style-type: none">76 marks: a mixture of short and long answer questions15 marks: comprehension question		Questions <ul style="list-style-type: none">38 marks: structured questions, including practical techniques15 marks: critical analysis of given experimental data25 marks: one essay from a choice of two titles

What topics will I study at A Level Biology?

AS and first year of A-level	Second year of A-level
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Biological molecules2. Cells3. Organisms exchange substances with their environment4. Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms	<ol style="list-style-type: none">5. Energy transfers in and between organisms6. Organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments7. Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems8. The control of gene expression

Course Materials

All students will have:

- a course textbook
- class notes / work
- homework notes / independent study materials
- specification requirements for each topic area
- many examples of past paper questions
- *You will be expected to complete 5 hours of independent study a week*



Entry requirements for A level Biology:

- 6 in separate Biology / 6 in Biology exams of combined Science
- 6 in Maths & English

20% of your A Level Biology will be awarded for
MATHS!!!!

You have a 25 mark essay to write in paper 3 so
English skills are vital!!!

About us - Team Biology teachers ☺

Miss N Russell

Head of
Biology

Studied Biomedical
Sciences at Newcastle
University

Favourite topic – It's hard to
pick!

Year 12 – the dissections
Year 13 – homeostasis



Mrs K Forster

Head of
Science

Studied Biology at
Newcastle University

Favourite topic – LOVE all of
biology!

What do our
current students
say about
choosing biology?

“Biology is an **exciting** and **interesting** subject which I recommend anyone to take. Every class we have is **fun** and I have enjoyed all my time during the A-level course. There are also many **great trips** to go on including university trips and fieldwork where we all had a great time catching Dave our mouse!”

“You should choose biology because the **teachers are great** and find unique ways to help remember facts.

Every lesson is well explained and planned. You have opportunities to make and deliver presentations to **build your confidence** and **develop your skills** if you plan to go to university!”

“Biology at A level is a **very rewarding** and **interesting** subject. You get **loads of support** from the teachers and I look forward to practicals. Although they aren’t always successful they are fun and teach you **valuable skills to become a scientist**”

“Biology **challenges you** and pushes you beyond your limits. It **opens a wide range of doors** for a successful career. The **teachers are so supportive** and it was **one of the best decisions I have made** and it was **choosing this subject**. You won’t regret taking this subject!”

“Biology is the perfect mix of science, maths and a little bit of English. The team of teachers are the reason I couldn't leave St Wilfrid's and there's absolutely no opportunity to fall behind. Biology opens the doors to so many opportunities and will go well with almost any combination of subjects”

“Biology **is amazing!** I decided to stay at St Wilfrid’s after gaining a grade 9 at GCSE Biology. **The support from our teachers is second to none**, and they are on call 24/7, even on weekends via email if I am in need of help with biology. **I have no regrets in taking biology and neither will you!**”

What extra
curricular
opportunities do
you get if you take
A level Biology?

Field Trip





National Biology Week!



Students were able to design their own biology-related costume and come into their lessons wearing it!!!



National Biology Week!



Sixth form students were our 'taste testers' for the Biology bake off!!!

Fertility in the toon trip!

What practical
work does
Biology
involve?

Required Practicals

Required activity
1. Investigation into the effect of a named variable on the rate of an enzyme-controlled reaction
2. Preparation of stained squashes of cells from plant root tips; set-up and use of an optical microscope to identify the stages of mitosis in these stained squashes and calculation of a mitotic index
3. Production of a dilution series of a solute to produce a calibration curve with which to identify the water potential of plant tissue
4. Investigation into the effect of a named variable on the permeability of cell-surface membranes
5. Dissection of animal or plant gas exchange or mass transport system or of organ within such a system
6. Use of aseptic techniques to investigate the effect of antimicrobial substances on microbial growth
7. Use of chromatography to investigate the pigments isolated from leaves of different plants, eg leaves from shade-tolerant and shade-intolerant plants or leaves of different colours
8. Investigation into the effect of a named factor on the rate of dehydrogenase activity in extracts of chloroplasts
9. Investigation into the effect of a named variable on the rate of respiration of cultures of single-celled organisms
10. Investigation into the effect of an environmental variable on the movement of an animal using either a choice chamber or a maze
11. Production of a dilution series of a glucose solution and use of colorimetric techniques to produce a calibration curve with which to identify the concentration of glucose in an unknown 'urine' sample
12. Investigation into the effect of a named environmental factor on the distribution of a given species

What careers
could Biology
lead me to?...

[illegible]