



Woolwich Polytechnic  
Sixth Form

# Biology A Level

"I am so glad that the Poly has added the third of the sciences to the A level offer. My teachers have inspired me to take Biology further through learning about the human body, its functions and chemical reactions and the incredibly fine balances that sustain life."

Year 11 student

## Key Skills

We will focus on developing students as independent learners; working on their analysis and evaluation skills along with their ability to debate about current scientific affairs.

## Where can A Level Biology A take me?

• A Level Biology A is an excellent base for a university degree in healthcare, such as medicine, veterinary or dentistry, as well as the biological sciences, such as biochemistry, molecular biology or forensic science. Biology can also complement sports science, psychology, sociology and many more.

• A Level Biology A can open up a range of career opportunities including biological research, medical, environmental, forensics, sports and science communication. The transferable skills you will learn, such as problem solving, are also useful for many other areas, such as law.

## Exam Board:

OCR

Specification A

## Entry Requirements:

GCSE Biology Grade 6 or Additional Science Grade 6 in Biology exam unit

| Course Content - AS Level   | Course Content - A2 Level  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cell structure</li><li>• Biological molecules</li><li>• Nucleotides and nucleic acids</li><li>• Enzymes</li><li>• Biological membranes</li><li>• Cell division, cell diversity and cellular organisation</li><li>• Exchange surfaces</li><li>• Transport in animals</li><li>• Transport in plants</li><li>• Communicable diseases, disease prevention and the immune system</li><li>• Biodiversity</li><li>• Classification and evolution</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Communication and homeostasis</li><li>• Excretion as an example of homeostatic control</li><li>• Neuronal communication</li><li>• Hormonal communication</li><li>• Plant and animal responses</li><li>• Photosynthesis</li><li>• Respiration</li><li>• Cellular control</li><li>• Patterns of inheritance</li><li>• Manipulating genomes</li><li>• Cloning and biotechnology</li><li>• Ecosystems</li><li>• Populations and sustainability</li></ul> |

## Method of assessment

AS Level: 2 x 1hr 30mins examinations

Breadth in Biology (50%)

Depth in Biology (50%)

A Level: 2 x 2hr 15mins examinations & 1 x 1hr 30mins examinations

Biological Processes (37%)

Biological Diversity (37%)

Unified Biology (26%)

A wide range of question types including: multiple choice, short answer and extended response questions.