



STEP UP TO 6TH FORM

KIMBERLEY SCHOOL TRANSITION INFORMATION

Biology A Level OCR

COURSE DETAILS

UNIT 1

Development of Practical Skills

This relates to the practical skills learners are expected to gain throughout the course, which are assessed throughout the written examinations and also through the Practical Endorsement.

Students will be given the opportunity to demonstrate their practical competence in at least 12 practical activities.

UNIT 2

Foundations in Biology

- Basic components of living things – cells and microscopy
- Biomolecules
- Enzymes
- Plasma membranes
- Cell divisions and stem cells

UNIT 3

Exchange & Transport

- Exchange surfaces and breathing
- Transport in animals
- Transport in plants
- Using ultrasound

EXAMS

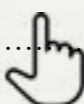
Processes (37%) - 2hr15min
 Diversity (37%) - 2hr15min
 Unified (26%) - 1hr30min
 + Non Exam Practical Assessment



LINK TO THE SPECIFICATION

See a detailed document of what we will cover in this course:

www.ocr.org.uk/Images/171736-specification-accredited-a-level-gce-biology-a-h420.pdf



Biodiversity, Evolution & Disease

- Classification and evolution
- Biodiversity
- Communicable diseases

UNIT 4

Communication, Homeostasis & Energy

- Neuronal communication
- Hormonal communication
- Homeostasis
- Plant responses
- Photosynthesis
- Respiration

UNIT 5

Genetics, Evolution & Ecosystems

- Genetics and living systems
- Patterns of inheritance and variation
- Manipulating genomes
- Cloning and Biotechnology
- Ecosystems
- Populations and sustainability

UNIT 6

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Work you can do to prepare for A Level study

Wider Reading

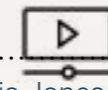
- We recommend you read through this transition book and try all the activities before starting A level Biology. CGP Head Start to Biology: amazon.co.uk/Head-Start-level-Biology-Level/dp/1782942793
- Miller, J and Van Loon, B (2012). Introducing Darwin. Pub. Icon Books Ltd
- Jones S and Van Loon B, (2012). Introducing Genetics. Icon Books Ltd

BOOKS



A Brief History of Everyone Who Ever Lived – The Stories in our Genes. Rutherford A.
The Selfish Gene. Dawkin R.
Why don't penguins' feet freeze? / Does anything eat wasps?
 New Scientist books

FILM & TV



Gattaca	Osmosis Jones
The Boys from Brazil	Contagion
Blueprint	Pain, pus, poison – BBC iPlayer
Splice	

PODCASTS



Ologies with Alie Ward
 Science Vs
 The Curious Cases of Rutherford and Fry
 New Scientist Weekly
 The Life Scientific
 This Podcast Will Kill You

USEFUL RESOURCE LINKS



A level Biology revision notes, powerpoints, mind maps, question booklets and mark schemes:
<https://alevelbiology.co.uk/>
 Primrose Kitten A level Biology: <https://primrosekitten.org/a-level-biology/>
 BioNinja: <https://ib.bioninja.com.au/additional-resources-2/summary-pdfs.html>
 Biology Dictionary: <https://biologydictionary.net/>
 A level Biology revision: <https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/blog/a-level-biology-revision/>
 Khan Academy: For content and wider reading www.khanacademy.org/

