



NOTTINGHAM
GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL

GDST
GIRLS' DAY SCHOOL TRUST

SIXTH FORM CURRICULUM GUIDE

BIOLOGY

OCR

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

At least grade 7 in Biology GCSE and at least grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics and GCSE Chemistry.



Have you ever wondered...

- Why your sister looks like you?
- How medicines work?
- What DNA is?
- Do clones exist?
- Who Darwin was?

The OCR A Level course has a thorough, logical and practical approach which provides opportunities for developing skills that can not only support you in many different courses and careers later in life, but also give you answers to questions you may have already thought about. You would be supported through the two year A Level course by two expert Biology teachers.

The specification covers a wide range of Biological topics, for example, Cell structure, Biochemistry, Transport in animals and plants, Biodiversity, Classification, Communication, inheritance, Photosynthesis, Respiration, Gene technology and Homeostasis are a few of the many areas we cover. The OCR specification gives students a comprehensive and thorough basis for going on to study Biology at a higher level as well as offering opportunities to practise transferable skills.

HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

At A Level there are three examination papers; Biological processes, Biological diversity and Unified biology which are taken at the end of the two year course. There is also an internally assessed Practical endorsement for A Level which is reported separately to the A Level grade.

When possible, things are looked at in a 'hands-on' way, as a key function of Sixth Form Biology is to develop a wide range of laboratory skills to a high degree of precision and provide opportunities for analytical thinking. The course offers opportunities to develop ICT skills, data handling, and effective research techniques as well as communication and team work skills. Out-of-school visits and a programme of scientific speakers all add to the learning experience, and those who choose to get involved in the Biology Olympiad are extended beyond the confines of the specification.

A Level Biology may be suited to you if you are; aiming to be a doctor, nurse or vet, thinking of a career in research, interested in the environment and world around you, a problem solver, interested in science, keen on practical work or studying other sciences or maths. A Level Biology is an excellent base for a university degree and can open up a range of career opportunities.

*Click here to watch the course introductory video
from Head of Biology, Mrs Sara Gibbs*

In order to join us in the Sixth Form, we require an average of grade 6 across eight GCSE subjects, including English and Mathematics. See individual subjects for any specific requirements for study at A Level.

For detailed course information on all of the A Level subjects please visit the AQA, Edexcel or OCR websites.

If you have any questions about any aspect of the admissions process, please call 0115 935 4444 or email admissions@not.gdst.net



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