

Biology

Biology offers 3 courses at 3 different levels: Intermediate 2 Biology, Higher Grade Human Biology and Advanced Higher Biology. Except for Advanced Higher, the courses are organised into 3 units. For all courses there is an external exam at the end of the course but students must also pass internal school assessments which consist of three end-of-unit tests and a report on an experimental investigation.

BIOLOGY - INTERMEDIATE 2

Entry requirements: S Grade Biology (Grade 2, 3 or 4) or Intermediate 1 Biology (Grade A or B), S Grade Chemistry or S Grade Physics (Grade 1 or 2) or Intermediate 2 Chemistry or Physics. Previous study of Biology at S Grade is not a requirement. Pupils who have achieved a Grade 2 in S Grade Biology but only a 3 in KU, should take Intermediate 2 in S5 and Higher in S6.

The course units are:

- **Living Cells** - you will use microscopes and carry out experiments to investigate the major processes occurring in cells.
- **Genetics and Environmental Biology** - sexual reproduction, inheritance, ecosystems, pollution and animal and plant adaptations.
- **Animal Physiology** - the structure and function of the body including digestive, circulatory, breathing and sensory systems.

Successful completion of Intermediate 2 Biology in S5 can lead to Higher Grade Human Biology in S6.

HUMAN BIOLOGY - HIGHER

Entry requirements: S Grade Biology (at least a grade 2 with KU Grade 1 or 2) or Intermediate 2 Biology (A or B) or (for a Higher in one year (S6) with no previous Biology qualifications) Higher Grade Physics or Chemistry.

Units of study concentrate on human aspects of biology and include '**Cell Function and Inheritance**', '**The Continuation of Life**' and '**Behaviour, Populations and the Environment**'.

Higher Human Biology has an equal status to Higher Biology and is a highly desirable (and sometimes essential) subject for many jobs as well as for further education and university courses. These can lead to careers in food, drinks, pharmaceutical, agricultural or biotechnology industries as well as the Health Service and environmental management.

Success in Higher Human Biology in S5 may lead to Advanced Higher Biology in S6.

BIOLOGY – ADVANCED HIGHER

Entry requirements: Grade A, B or C in Higher Human Biology.

There are two 40-hour units: '**Cell and Molecular Biology**' and '**Environmental Biology**', and two 20-hour units, '**Physiology, Health and Exercise**' and a Biology **Investigation**. For the fourth unit you must plan, carry out and write a report on a biological investigation of your choice.

