

## Biology A-Level: Pre-Study Information

If you've ever wondered how your body works, how organisms evolve, or how scientists fight diseases and climate change, A-level Biology is the course for you. Studying Biology opens the door to understanding the building blocks of life and prepares you for a wide range of careers in science, medicine, and beyond.

This course follows the AQA A-level Biology specification, one of the most respected and widely recognised qualifications in the UK. It's ideal for students who are curious about the natural world, enjoy practical work, and want to develop the skills needed for higher education and real-world science.

*The minimum entry requirements for this course are:*

1. *Five or more 9 to 5 GCSEs including English Language and Maths,*
2. *PLUS at least a 6 in English Language,*
3. *PLUS at least a 7 in either Biology or combined Science.*

### **How is it assessed?**

Paper 1: Biological molecules, cells, exchange, and genetics

Paper 2: Energy transfers, response, and gene expression

Paper 3: Synoptic questions, essay, and practical data

Each paper is **2 hours long**, and exams take place at the end of Year 13. There is no coursework, but your practical work will be continuously assessed for your Practical Endorsement.

### **Where can A-level Biology take you?**

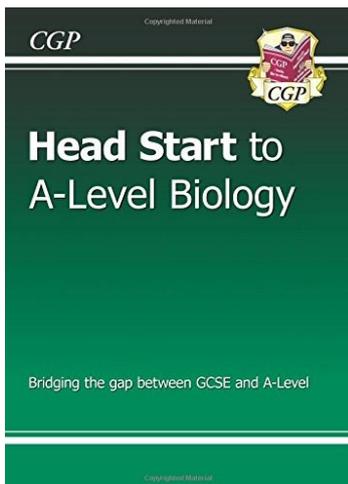
A-level Biology opens the door to a huge range of degree courses and careers, including:

Medicine, dentistry, and veterinary science, nursing, physiotherapy, and biomedical sciences  
Pharmacology, genetics, and neuroscience, environmental science, agriculture, and conservation.

Research, teaching, and science communication.

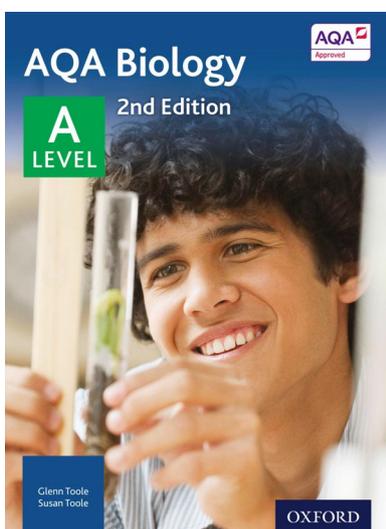
It's also a great complement to subjects like Physics, Chemistry, Psychology, Maths, and Geography, History, Politics and ethics.

It is a requirement that over the summer vacation prospective A-Level Biology students work through the Head Start study guide and complete the transition assignment. This must be submitted at the first Biology lesson.



### 1. CGP Head Start to A-Level Biology

Additionally, students must purchase the text book required for next year at the earliest opportunity:



### 2. AQA A- level Biology

ISBN 978-0198351771

There will be an admission test after the first two weeks of the course that will test the mathematical aspects of GCSE Biology. If students do not pass this assessment they will be asked to leave the course.

The test will be a mixture of multiple choice questions and structured long answer questions. The material examined has been covered in GCSE Biology and is reinforced in the *CGP Head Start to A-Level Biology* workbook.