BIOLOGY
UPPER-SIXTH

REGENT
Independent College

SUBJECT GUIDE:

Exam Board - Edexcel Syllabus A

WHY CHOOSE BIOLOGY

The new specification is designed to engage and inspire students by showing how an understanding of many contemporary issues requires a grasp of fundamental biological ideas. Studying Biology teaches us to ask questions, make observations, evaluate evidence, and solve problems. Biologists learn how living things work, how they interact with one another, and how they evolve.

HOW WE STUDY BIOLOGY

ILPs, Course workbooks, Tests, Quizzes, Word Loops, Computer work, Notes, Reading, Practical work individually and in small groups, Presentations, Peer Teaching, Exam Practice, Homework, Mind maps, Essays, Project work.

LEARNING SKILLS REQUIRED

Basic Numeracy skills are essential; skills also required are: Writing, Analytical, Logical Reasoning, Research skills, Sketch Drawing, Note taking, Scan reading, Computing, Interest in current affairs, Memory skills, Recall Skills, Ability to absorb data, Creativity, Wide technical vocabulary.

WHAT OTHER SUBJECTS COMPLEMENT THE COURSE?

Chemistry, Physics, Maths, Psychology & Geography.

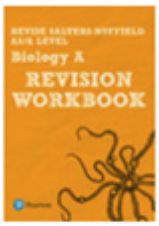
AS-BIOLOGY

AS and A2 Biology are now LINEAR qualifications and potential assessments will now take place at the end of each course. AS is now a standalone qualification meaning that it will not form part of students' A Level grades. **But at the present time at Regent, students are assessed only at the END of the two-year course.** AS Topics include Transport, Genes and Health, Plants and the Environment & Biodiversity.

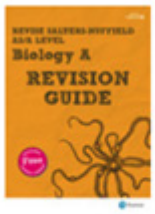
Questions assessing student's use of **mathematical skills** will make up 10% of the exam papers. There will be **no assessed coursework** but students will be required to complete **18 core practicals** over the two year course which cover specific skills and techniques. Practical skills are now assessed in two ways; knowledge and understanding of core practicals will be assessed in the **theory papers** and teacher assessment of student's competency when completing practical work will count towards the separate **Practical Endorsement** at A-Level.

Course Reading List

Salters-Nuffield AS/A level Biology Student Book 1 + ActiveBook
Publisher: Pearson
Author: University of York Science Education Group ,Curriculum Centre Nuffield
ISBN: 9781447991007



Revise Salters Nuffield AS/A level Biology Revision Workbook
Publisher: Pearson
Author: Ann Skinner
ISBN: 9781447992707
Our Revision Workbooks are designed to help students develop vital skills throughout the course and build their confidence in preparation for the exam, with guided questions, unguided questions, practice papers and a full set of answers.



Revise Salters Nuffield AS/A Level Biology Revision Guide
Publisher: Pearson
Author: Gary Skinner
ISBN: 9781447992714
Designed for hassle-free classroom and independent study, our Revision Guides are designed to complement the Student Books with a range of specially designed features such as the one-topic-per-page format, practice questions, knowledge checks and skills checks...
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A2 BIOLOGY

At the end of the 2-year course, students will take 3 theory papers which will test both the AS and A2 syllabus and the core practicals. In addition paper 3 will include questions on a pre-release article which will be given out about 6 weeks before the exam paper. Each paper is two hours in length.

Topics include, Ecology, Photosynthesis, Climate Change, Immunity, Forensics, Respiration & the Nervous System.

Course Reading List

Salters-Nuffield A level Biology Student Book 2 + ActiveBook

Publisher: Pearson

Author: Ann Scott,Nicola Wilberforce,Nick Owens,David Slingsby,Mark Smith,Catherine Rowell,Peter Anderson

ISBN: 9781447991014

THE BIOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Dr Alan Taylor - has long experience of teaching Biology for over 35 years; Year 7 to post-graduate. He has also been an examiner for a number of Exam Boards, including Edexcel, OCR and AQA. He spent several years carrying out research in Plant Physiology at London University and has taught in the private sector for over 25 years. He has worked with Mr Arthur for over 15 years and together they make a very experienced team.

Mr Philip Arthur - has been teaching Biology at secondary level for over 40 years and was an examiner for EDXECEL ("A" level, "O" level and GCSE) for many years. He has a wealth of experience in teaching across a wide ability range and is particularly keen on practical work where his students invariably achieve a very high standard. Previous posts include both Head of Science and Head of Biology and he is also a very experienced personal tutor for all of the Board's Biology exams.