

Biology

Course overview

A LEVEL

Level 3

OCR

What causes disease? What is a heart attack, or a genetic fingerprint? Is evolution scientific reality or 'just a theory?' Could you breed a bean plant that tastes of roast beef or chocolate, and if so, should you? How does your immune system work? Are all organisms related to each other, even humans? Will dementia ever be curable? These are some of the questions that you might encounter when studying Biology at A Level.

Entry Requirements

You must have a minimum of 5 grades 9-4 (equivalent to A*-C) at GCSE, including English and Maths at grade 4, plus you must also meet the specific subject entry requirements.

Subject Specific Requirements

Grade 6 in Double Science GCSE or grade 6 in Biology and a grade 6 in Maths GCSE.

Popular Subject Combinations

A Level: Chemistry, Maths, Geography, Psychology

BTEC: Applied Science

Possible Enrichment Opportunities

Residential trip for environmental sampling and ecology in the spring term of the first year, opportunity to present at the Strode's Science Symposium and alongside world-famous scientists from the Royal Holloway University

What will I learn?

A Level Biology deals with a variety of life processes including: biochemistry, cell biology, evolution and biodiversity, physiology, immunity and disease. Neurology, genetics, ecology and homeostasis, together with detailed study of the vital processes that underpin all life Respiration and Photosynthesis. This course relies heavily on a clear understanding of the biochemical processes that underpin living systems.

How will I be assessed?

Two externally assessed papers of two hours and 15 minutes, and one of one hour and 30 minutes, all in the Summer of the second year. There is also a compulsory practical endorsement carried out in lessons throughout the course to provide you with vital experimental and analytical skills.

Where might it lead?

The range of courses and work opportunities involving biology is vast and includes: veterinary science, medicine, dentistry, physiotherapy, sport science, psychology, pharmacy, bio-technology, zoology, marine biology, plant and animal science, cosmetics, forestry, agriculture, environmental science and many more. The scientific skills developed through biology are widely valued and transferable.

Ellie Taggart (ex pupil of Sunbury Manor)

"Biology is my favourite subject, I really enjoy it. The teachers are very knowledgeable and have lots of passion for their subject."

If you would like further information about this course please contact the admissions team at

Strode's College, Egham, Surrey, TW20 9DR
Email: admissions@strodes.ac.uk
www.strodes.ac.uk