

## A Level Biology



### Introduction and Overview

Students studying A level Biology at Sir John Talbot's School will be taught for 5 lessons per week by subject specialists. The syllabus is delivered as a 2 year linear course with the opportunity for pupils to complete the AS level qualification separately at the end of year 1 if they wish. The course combines important scientific theory with multiple practical activities. Topics covered over the 2 years include:

- Biological molecules
- Cells
- Organisms exchange substances with their environment
- Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms
- Energy transfers in and between organisms
- Organisms respond to the changes in their internal and external environments
- Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems
- The control of gene expression

We aim to engage and motivate pupils to think about how science impacts on our lives and to provide them with a strong foundation should they choose to continue their study of science into higher education.

### How to support your child

We are sure that you already do many of these things to support your child, but here is a useful reminder for you to refer to:

- Look in your child's planner or on MILK to see what homework has been set
- Support them in structuring their revision and managing their time effectively
- Buy appropriate revision guides (for A level AQA Biology)
- Encourage wider reading and watching of documentaries that may enhance their learning
- Prompt your child to make use of websites and apps that are available

### Web Links

#### Specification and exam info:

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/as-and-a-level/biology-7401-7402>

#### Revision websites

<http://www.biologyguide.net/>

<http://www.s-cool.co.uk/a-level/biology>

### Additional Reading

BBC News Science pages

New Scientist/FOCUS magazines

'The Third Chimpanzee: On the Evolution and Future of the Human Animal' by Jared Diamond.

Biological Sciences Review – these can be found in Dr.Gardner's Lab

'The Tangled Bank' by Carl Zimmer