A-Level Biology at West Hatch

2018 Biology results:

- 50% A*-B
- 86% A*-C
- 100% A*-E

Department ALPS **Grade 4**

2019 Biology results:

- 50% A*-B
- 73% A*-C
- 100% A*-E

Department ALPS **Grade 4**

2020 CAG's for Biology:

- 64% A*-B
- 100% A*-C

Department ALPS **Grade 3**

Biology student destinations include:

- A* grade studying Biochemistry at Cardiff
- C grade studying Sport Science at St. Mary's
- A grade studying Biomedical Science (anatomy) at Cardiff
- B grade studying Pharmacy at Brighton
- B grade studying Veterinary Nursing at Middlesex
- A* grade studying Medicine at Sheffield

Why Study Biology?

There are many reasons to pick A-level Biology including:

- Because you are good at it
- Because you enjoy it
- Because it can lead to a wide range of future careers
- Because it is a facilitating subject for Russell Group and Oxbridge universities
- Because it teaches a wide range of transferrable skills

Why Choose West Hatch for Biology?

At West Hatch you can expect:

- Excellent teaching
- Very experienced and supportive staff
- A course with real life links (OCR Biology A)
- Regular assessments, analysis and feedback
- Weekly targeted intervention for underachievers
- Intervention with instant feedback
- Booklets of exam questions
- Wider reading materials provided for every topic

Entry Requirements

The entry requirements for A-Level Biology are:

- Meet basic entry requirements to 6th form
- Level 6 in Triple Biology or level 7 in Combined Science
- A good mathematics grade is useful; at least 10% of the assessments require a mathematical response
- A good English grade is useful: papers rely on a good level of comprehension

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OCR A Biology: Course Outline

Biology content
Covers 6 modules which are assessed across 3 examinations.
These are called Biological processes (37%), Biological diversity (37%) and Unified biology (26%).

The style of questions in examinations will range from multiple choice, short answers, calculations, problem solving and extended responses.

Pupils will also have the opportunity to demonstrate that they can competently complete 12 different types of practical's and will achieve a certificate to credit this with a pass if successful.

If pupils sit AS Biology they would be assessed across 2 examinations.
These are Depth in Biology (50%) and Breadth in Biology (50%).

Module 1 - Development of practical skills in Biology – planning, implementing, analyse and evaluation of data.

Module 2 - Foundations in biology – cell structure, biological molecules, enzymes, membranes, cell division.

Module 3 – Exchange and transport – exchange surfaces, transport in animals, transport in plants.

Module 4 – Biodiversity, evolution and disease – diseases, prevention and the immune system, biodiversity, classification and evolution.

Module 5 – communication, homeostasis and energy – excretion, neuronal communication, hormonal communication, plant and animal responses, photosynthesis and respiration.

Module 6 – genetics, evolution and ecosystems -–cellular control, inheritances, genomes, cloning, biotechnology, populations, ecosystems and sustainability.

Practical topics covered across the 2 year course - microscopy, dissection, sampling techniques, rates of enzymes reaction, colorimeter or photometer, chromatography or electrophoresis, microbiological technology, transport out of cells, qualitative testing, using data logger or computer modelling, measuring plant and animal responses and research skills.