

# Welcome to A Level Biology!

Congratulations on obtaining the grades needed to enrol in Biology A level.

Biology is an interesting and varied subject, from biological molecules to cells, organs to organisms and food chains to whole ecosystems. Almost everyone enjoys finding out about how their bodies work, and about the world around them – and so you should find this course engaging, informative and thought-provoking.

You are expected to complete **5 hours** independent study each week in Biology. **This should include reading around the areas being studied, as well as enhancing class notes and completing tasks for homework.**

Please remember that ***you are responsible for your learning*** – we are here to help, and will happily support you if you are making an effort to progress. Please do not wait until after a test before asking for help with a biological concept. Bear in mind that we may not be available to help immediately, but we will arrange a convenient time to do so.

In order to help you progress, as well as the introductory booklet, you will have the following resources available to you:

- Notes from class
- Your biology teachers
- A level revision guide, recommended is: CGP for Salters-Nuffield AS and A level Biology 2015.
- Text books that you buy, recommended is: Salters-Nuffield AS and A level Biology 2015 (SNAB) by Pearson, endorsed by Edexcel.  
<https://www.pearsonschoolsandfecolleges.co.uk/Secondary/Science/16Biology/SaltersNuffieldASandAlevelBiologySNAB/Salters-NuffieldAdvancedBiologySNAB.aspx> first year book 1, second year book 2.
- Lots of revision sites on the internet e.g. [www.s-cool.co.uk](http://www.s-cool.co.uk)
- Edexcel website for past paper practise. Your scheme is Spec A Salters Nuffield from 2015. The old scheme spec B from 2008 is also useful. Both can be found at:  
<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/support/support-topics/exams/past-papers.html?Qualification-Family=A-Level>
- Google classroom resources.
- Maths support booklets for the Edexcel spec.  
[http://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/A%20Level/Biology/2015/teaching-and-learning-materials/Biology\\_Maths\\_Student\\_Guide\\_-\\_FINAL.pdf](http://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/A%20Level/Biology/2015/teaching-and-learning-materials/Biology_Maths_Student_Guide_-_FINAL.pdf)
- Journals for research to read around the topics studied, (not an exhaustive list)  
<http://scholar.google.co.uk/>  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_scientific\\_journals](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_scientific_journals)  
<http://www.the-scientist.com/>  
<http://www.newscientist.com/>  
<https://wellcome.ac.uk>  
<https://thebiologist.rsb.org.uk/biologist>

We encourage you to make the most of these resources throughout the year, not just as exams approach.