

General Enquiries

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MARPLE
SIXTH FORM
COLLEGE

A Level in Biology

Location	Marple College
Course Type	College 16-18
Department	A Levels
Start Date	Monday 1st September 2025
Course Code	MFQ-ML3L-1119

Course Overview

Biology is a tremendously varied and enjoyable subject, enabling students to develop valuable knowledge and skills.

The course is designed to provide a grounding and real-life contextualisation of all aspects of Biology including Biochemistry, Cell Biology, Animal and Plant Physiology, Ecology, Molecular Biology and Genetics.

Students develop their biological knowledge through a variety of means: interactive tasks, independent learning, group work and laboratory practicals.

Course Requirements

PLEASE NOTE - YOU MUST APPLY FOR 3 A LEVELS

Standard A Level entry requirements: 5 x GCSE grade 5's or above (must include Maths and English Language). However, certain subjects may have additional entry criteria, which can be found below:

Additional Entry Requirements:

A Level Biology will require grade 6 in GCSE Biology or 66 in Combined Science.

This subject must also be studied alongside at least one other science-based (Maths, Biology, Chemistry, Physics) course. Psychology can be counted as an additional science in this case.

What You Will Learn

Your practical skills will develop through a range of core practicals gaining the 'practical skills endorsement' at the end of the second year as you begin to develop your own methods to gather information. You will work individually and with your peers in a variety of activities including practicals, discussions, fieldwork, and modelling theories.

Our highly trained team will monitor your progress using rigorous and accurate assessment methods and use the information to support you throughout your two years, offering you dedicated support sessions. We have a highly trained and experienced team who will use their expertise to help every student make progress in their studies. We also have a dedicated work placement team to help you secure a placement in your chosen field including medicine and working with animals. Students have progressed from here to study Biology related degrees at many top universities including Oxford and Cambridge.

Assessment

We will build on the core principles you have learned at GCSE and develop and extend your skills and knowledge of this fascinating subject. This course is assessed purely by exams in the summer term of the second year.

Progression

Biology is an essential qualification for a number of health related courses. It also develops valuable practical and problem solving skills that are useful for employment and higher education.

Career Options

Research Scientist, Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science, Science Teacher, Nurse, Bioengineer and many more.

Mandatory Units

As well as studying key concepts such as biological molecules, cell structure and function, movement of molecules, exchange and transport in animals and plants, genetic variation, classification, biodiversity, photosynthesis, respiration, nutrient cycles, energy transfer, stimuli and response, nerves, homeostasis, muscles, populations, gene expression and gene technology you will build a variety of transferable skills in the two years including data analysis, communication, organisation, practical and the ability to work in a team.

Contact Details

For further information please contact T: 0161 886 7070 or E: info@trafford.ac.uk

Disclaimer

Although every care has been taken to ensure that the information contained within this document is accurate, there may be changes to this programme and provision. We will endeavour to keep prospective and current students updated where appropriate and when the information becomes available.