BIOLOGY
A LEVEL (AQA)

THE BOURNE ACADEMY SIXTH FORM

This course is designed to encourage candidates to develop:
- **An enthusiasm for biology**
- **Practical skills alongside understanding of concepts and principles**
- **An appropriate and relevant foundation of knowledge and skills for the study of biology in Higher Education.**

A level Biology is a two year course leading to a full A level (A2)

Core content:
- 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 changes in their internal and external environments
- Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems (A-level only)
- Control of Gene Expression (A-Level only).

How are you assessed?

Paper 1
- Any content from topics 1– 4, including relevant practical skills
- written exam: 2 hours
- 91 marks
- 35% of A-level
- 76 marks: a mixture of short and long answer questions
- 15 marks: extended response questions.

Paper 2
- Any content from topics 5 – 8, including relevant practical skills
- Written exam: 2 hours
- 91 marks
- 35% of A-level
- 76 marks: a mixture of short and long answer questions
- 15 marks: comprehension question.

Paper 3
- Any content from topics 1– 8, including relevant practical skills
- Written exam: 2 hours
- 78 marks
- 30% of A-level
- 38 marks: structured questions, including practical techniques
- 15 marks: critical analysis of given experimental data
- 25 marks: one essay from a choice of two titles.

What will you learn?

In the first year, this course stimulates the enthusiasm of students from the start. It emphasises the way in which biologists work and the contributions of biology to society. A large portion of the course is focussed on practical skills and investigation methods.

Where will it take you?

This is a traditional academic route which allows you to go on to study Biological Sciences at University.

Who to talk to?

Please speak to Mr Jonathan Fry, or email Jonathan.Fry@thebourneacademy.com

What will you need to study this course?

Students must attain a Grade 6 or higher in Biology or in Combined Science at GCSE (a 6-5 at Combined is acceptable). Grades 6 or higher in English Language and/or Mathematics is also desirable, though not essential.