

BIOLOGY – CfE HIGHER

What are the aims of this course?

The **Higher Biology** course develops major biological concepts that make the subject an important and fundamental area of investigative science. It provides a general basis for further study or employment within areas related to Biology. The course develops a more thorough understanding of the biological concepts covered in the National 5 and Intermediate 2 Biology courses.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

For this course, potential pupils would be expected to have gained an award in **National 5**. However the best route for progression in a one year Higher is an A or B pass at National 5.

What content is included in this course?

The course is composed of three units of study including **DNA and the Genome, Metabolism and Survival** and **Sustainability and Interdependence**.

What skills will I develop?

The main aims of this Course are for learners to:

- develop and apply knowledge and understanding of Biology
- develop an understanding of Biology's role in scientific issues and relevant applications of Biology, including the impact these could make in society and the environment
- develop scientific inquiry and investigative skills
- develop scientific analytical thinking skills, including scientific evaluation, in a biological context
- develop the use of technology, equipment and materials and use them safely in practical scientific activities
- develop planning skills
- develop problem solving skills in a Biology context
- use and understand scientific literacy to communicate ideas and issues and to make scientifically informed choices
- develop the knowledge and skills for more advanced learning in Biology
- develop skills of independent working

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

A range of learning and teaching approaches are used including individual work, group work and cooperative activities. There is an emphasis on practical work, skills development, experimental design and data analysis.

How will I be assessed?

To gain an award for the course, you must pass all of the units as well as the course assessments. The course assessments are made up of the **assignment (23%)** and the **final exam (77%)**. No overall award will be given until all internal assessments have been passed.

What are the homework requirements?

Pupils are set a minimum of **one homework per week**. This could include written tasks, learning or consolidation of knowledge and understanding.

What are the possible progression routes?

Achieving a **B grade** or above at Higher would allow progression to the **Advanced Higher Biology** course. The AH course is designed for well motivated pupils that work well independently.

Certification anticipated in:

Higher Biology is allocated 24 credit points at SCQF level 6, Grade A - C