

BIOLOGY – NATIONAL 5

What are the aims of this course?

The **National 5 Biology course** is designed for pupils who wish to find out how Biology, the study of living organisms, plays a crucial role in our everyday existence, and is an increasingly important subject in the modern world. Advances in technologies have made this varied subject more exciting and relevant than ever.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

For this course, potential pupils would be expected to have shown competence in their previous science studies, such as a **PASS** at National 4 Biology or relevant component units.

What content is included in this course?

The course is composed of three units of study including; **Cell Biology, Multicellular Organisms and Life of Earth.**

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**, experimental design and data analysis.

How will I be assessed?

The course is assessed through an external examination and an assignment. **The grade achieved is based on the final examination (80marks) and the assignment (20marks).** Pupils must also pass 3 knowledge based tests (including problem solving skills), an investigation and a research task. 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 key area**. 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 National 5 would allow progression to the **Higher Biology** course.

Certification anticipated in:

National 5 Biology is allocated 24 SCQF points at SCQF level 5, Grade A - C