

# GCSE Biology

This is a single GCSE that is taken with OCR GCSE Chemistry and Physics. Pupils following this course will be allocated 4 periods a week, normally 2 single periods and 1 double. In addition to the Biology material delivered to those students taking Science and Additional Science (namely B1, B2, B3 and B4), pupils following this course will study a further two units, B5 and B6, the content of which is given below.

The assessment for this course will be taken at the end of the 5<sup>th</sup> Form by means of 2 written exams and a coursework element as outlined below

## *Written Paper 1: (33%) 1 hour*

- **B1 Understanding Ourselves:** See GCSE Science
- **B2 Understanding Our Environment:** See GCSE Science
- **B5 The Living Body:** This includes topics such as the muscles and movement, the heart and circulation, medical technology and ethics, respiratory disease, excretion, reproduction, organ transplantation, hormones and growth.

## *Written Paper 2: (33%) 1 hour*

- **B3 Living and Growing:** See GCSE Additional Science
- **B4 It's a Green World:** See GCSE Additional Science
- **B6 Beyond the Microscope:** This includes topics such as understanding bacteria, micro-organisms and disease, microbes used in bioengineering, bio-fuels, microscopic life in soil and water, enzymes as molecular tools, genetic engineering.

## *Coursework: (33%)*

This will be EITHER

The GCSE Science  
coursework component

- **Science in the News** (20%)
- **Can do Tasks** (13.3%)

OR

The GCSE Additional Science  
coursework component

- **Research Study** (13.3%)
- **Data Task** (16.6%)
- **Practical Skills** (3.4%)