



Biology GCSE

Examination and Revision Information

Examination Board:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• AQA GCSE Biology
Number of Examination Papers:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Paper 1: Cell Biology; Organisation; Infection and response; and Bioenergetics• Paper 2: Homeostasis and response; Inheritance, variation and evolution; and Ecology
Structure of Examination Papers:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Paper 1: 1hr 45 minutes. 100 marks. 50% of total grade• Paper 2: 1hr 45 minutes. 100 marks. 50% of total grade
Key Information:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The GCSE Biology course is a two year, linear curriculum.• The qualification is 100% examination based.• One of the ten required practical activities could be examined on either paper. Marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPAG) is also awarded.• You must be able to apply maths skills to biological scenarios, expressing answers in decimal form, standard form, %, fractions or ratios and to the appropriate number of significant figures.• You must correctly use scientific terminology and accurately define key words.
Where could I find past papers and mark schemes?	<p>https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/biology-8461/assessment-resources</p>
What are the best websites to help me revise this subject?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• BBC Bitesize: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zpgcbk7• S-Cool Revision: https://www.s-cool.co.uk/gcse/biology• GCSEScience: https://www.physicsandmathstutor.com/biology-revision/gcse-aqa/
What are the best ways to revise for this subject?	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Self-Testing: Use flash cards to cover past topics. The following website is a useful resource to create your own: https://www.brainscape.com/2. GCSE Pod: There are Pods linked to the content of all topics covered in both papers.3. Books: Revise by using your exercise books. These are your best revision resource. The Department offer the opportunity to buy revision guides. This is another useful resource that contains concise revision notes and exam practice questions complete with mark scheme.4. Past Papers: Answer individual questions from past GCSE papers. Make sure you know the difference between the question styles and understand the command words used. Practice makes perfect.5. Make the link: understand that the skills you develop in Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Maths are transferable. You will be expected to carry out calculations, calculate percentages and ratios, read values from graphs and describe relationships. You have done this all before. Do not get overwhelmed by an unfamiliar scenario!

