

DEPARTMENT

BIOLOGY

LEVEL

NATIONAL 5

RECOMMENDED ENTRY LEVELS

Level 4 / National 4 Biology

Biology National 5 topics:

- **Cell Biology**
- **Multicellular Organisms**
- **Life on Earth**
- **Assignment**

Methodology to promote the main aims of the subject is:

- Active learning tasks to develop scientific and analytical thinking skills in a biology context.
- Activities including practical work to promote problem solving skills.
- Develop an understanding of biology's role in scientific issues and relevance in society.

Homework:

This will be a mix of:

- developing and applying biology knowledge
- developing scientific and analytical thinking skills
- planning and designing experimental procedures
- research on biological issues and their impact
- Pupils should make their own summary notes/mind maps each week to aid revision.

Assessment:

Learners' progress through the course will be measured through knowledge and understanding tests, practical investigations and project presentations.

The course award is in 2 parts; a course assignment and an external exam. The purpose of the assignment is to assess the application of skills of scientific inquiry and related biology knowledge and understanding. This component allows assessment of skills which cannot be assessed through the question paper; for example, the handling and processing of data gathered as a result of experimental work/fieldwork, and research skills. The National 5 assignment is worth 20% of a candidate's overall grade.

The purpose of the question paper is to assess breadth, challenge and application of skills, knowledge and understanding from across the course. The question paper assesses the application or extension of knowledge and/or skills in unfamiliar situations, practical and theoretical contexts. The National 5 Biology external examination at the end of the course will last 2 hours 30 minutes and is marked out of 100.

On National 5 successful completion the pupil may progress to Higher Biology or Higher Human Biology if they gain a grade B or above in the final examination.