Callington Community College Sixth Form
'Getting the most from our Sixth Form learners'

A Level Biology

What you will learn:	Biological molecules, cells, organisms exchange molecules with their environment, genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms, energy transfers in and between organisms, organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments, genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems, the control of gene expression The units follow on from the Additional and Triple Science GCSE courses and are designed to give greater detail to students' existing knowledge and to introduce new ideas, covering a variety of topics. These range from the small scale of biochemistry to the larger scale interactions between different populations. The course includes updates on recent research and developments in the rapidly changing world of bioscience, many of which will be incorporated into lessons.
Elements of the course:	There will be opportunities to visit university departments, e.g. the electron microscope unit at Plymouth University and other establishments working within biological sciences. The A Level course includes a 3-day residential ecology field trip. Lessons will include whole class and small group tasks as well as independent work. Students will participate in a wide variety of activities, creating models, IT–enhanced lessons, projects, presentations, research and practical work, for example electrophoresis and genetic engineering.
Where could it take me?	Anywhere, it is a vital subject for any life science studies at university level, vital not only to biology degrees but an enabling subject any medical or veterinary subject.
Assessment:	At A Level all eight units are assessed by means of three written examinations where students are required to answer structured questions. Some responses require extended writing. All examinations will be taken at the end of the two year course. Biology is fundamentally an experimental subject. Students will have numerous opportunities to use practical experiences to link theory to reality, and equip them with the essential practical skills that will be examined as part of the terminal written papers.

Entry Requirements

Minimum Required:	Level 6 in Biology, Level 6 in Mathematics, Level 5 in English **Standard Sixth Form entry requirements.**
Preferred Requirements:	Level 7 in Biology Level 6 in Mathematics Level 6 in English
Special Requirements:	