A LEVEL

BIOLOGY A H420

Oxford Cambridge and RSA

Support highlights

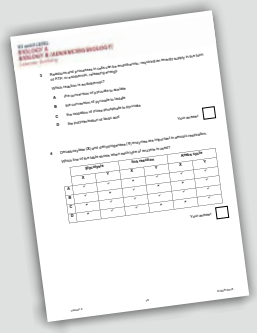
We've collated links to some of our core resources into this one-stop guide. These highlighted resources will enable you to get up to speed quickly in the classroom and support your students in preparing for assessment. They include materials that will focus your teaching on individual abilities of students, help determine their capabilities and above all save you time. Many more resources are available from the OCR website.

Multiple choice topic quizzes

Link to multiple choice topic quizzes

There are 24 sets of 20 MCQs divided by topic. They are brilliant to use for retrieval practise, assessment for learning, homework, lesson starters, plenaries, extension activities and revision. They can be used effectively as question and answers or developed into activities such as students re-writing questions to make a different answer correct or students giving clues to support their peers in identifying the correct answer.

All of our multiple choice quizzes are also available as digital versions. They are self-marking and provide feedback on the different distractor options for both incorrect and correct answers.



Maths for biology

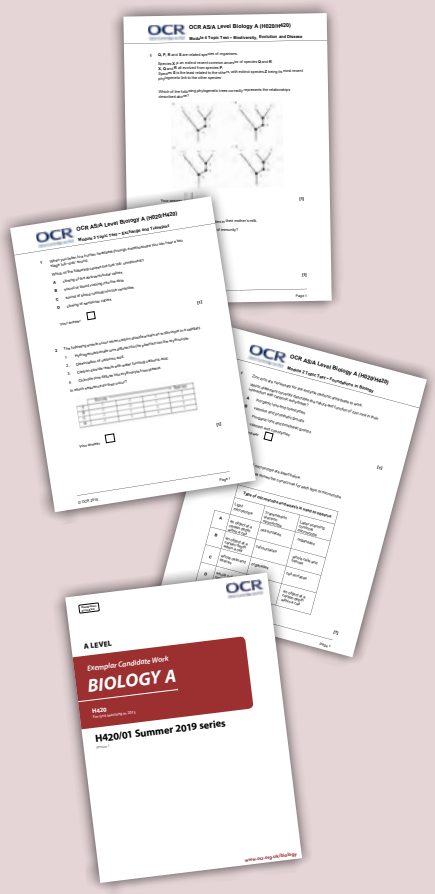
Link to maths for biology

This is a standalone section of our website focused explicitly on the maths skills in the A Level Biology A specification. It is divided into the maths skills M0, M1, M2, M3 and M4 with tutorials, student activities, teacher answers and summary quizzes. These are great used in the classroom as short activities and are also very well suited to assigning for independent intervention work based on students' individual needs.

Candidate exemplars

Link to Candidate exemplars

After each examination documents of candidate exemplars are produced. These illustrate how the mark scheme has been applied to specific example answers with examiner commentary. They can be used by teachers to gain insight into the key mistakes candidates made on specific questions as well as by candidates to develop their exam technique. They are particularly valuable when used alongside students' own answers to the same exam papers or when used within review activities. For most questions there are several exemplars provided which allow students to critically compare them without fear of offending their peers.



You may also like

Topic tests

Available from ExamBuilder via Interchange. These tests can be used either to assess understanding after teaching a whole module or within a revision programme. This pack includes 3 tests: Module 2 (Foundations in biology), Module 3 (Exchange and transport) and Module 4 (Communication, homeostasis and energy). Each test is approximately 60 minutes long and includes a variety of question styles including Multiple choice questions and Level of response questions.

Assessment materials

Access past papers, mark schemes and examiners' reports from the OCR website.

OCR resources to support you

Topics tests and Exambuilder guide

Available from ExamBuilder via Interchange. These tests can be used either to assess understanding after teaching a whole module or within a revision programme. This pack includes 2 tests: Module 5 (Communication, homeostasis and energy), Module 6 (Genetics, evolution and ecosystems). Each test is approximately 60 minutes long and includes a variety of questions styles including Multiple choice questions and Level of response questions. An instruction guide to help teachers use ExamBuilder to create end of topic tests to assess the gaps in students' knowledge has also be published.

Please note Interchange access is required to access the topic tests.

Student revision checklist

RAG rating of the specification content for students to self-evaluate with. This can be useful to inform themselves and teachers of gaps and where to focus revision.

Exam hints for students

Summer highlights from past examiners' reports to help students pick up valuable marks in the exams.

Women in science poster

This resource exemplifies the work of prominent female scientists and how this work links to the content in our specifications. You and your students can relate the achievements of these scientists to the work you do in the classroom.

Professional Development

Teacher Networks

We are running free online Science Teacher Networks every term where you can discuss your subject with our subject advisors and your colleagues.

Exams Preparation

Online webinar addressing common misconceptions and issues students have demonstrated in past exam series and best to prepare students to avoid these in their examinations.

Ask the Subject Advisor

Online Question and Answer webinar to engage with the Subject Advisor with things that matter most to you as teachers.

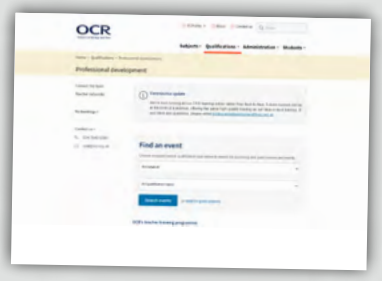
Maths for Biology

Online webinar to improve your confidence in teaching students the mathematical skills within A Level Biology.

Find an event

See our range of professional development courses using the 'Find an event' search tool.

We're now running all our CPD training online rather than face-to-face. Future courses will be in the form of a webinar, offering the same high-quality training as our face-to-face training. If you have any questions, please email professionaldevelopment@ocr.org.uk



Cambridge Assessment resources

Resource Plus from Cambridge International

These digital resources are now available to all OCR teachers free of charge. Resource Plus gives you access to high quality videos, ready-made lesson plans and teaching materials that you can use to help your students learn and prepare for their exams. We also offer Resource Plus materials that are designed for you to share with your students.

This website has videos showing experiments, lesson plans, teacher notes, student activities, quizzes and questions for a number of investigation topics including gel electrophoresis and immobilising enzymes.

There are also topic connection maps which can provide a start point for students' own mind map creations. *Note: these relate to the Cambridge International A Level Biology specification so some adaptation may be needed.*

Non-endorsed resources

These resources are from other publishers, organisations, or online sources. While these resources are not officially endorsed by OCR, and we cannot guarantee their accuracy, you may still find them helpful for use with your students.

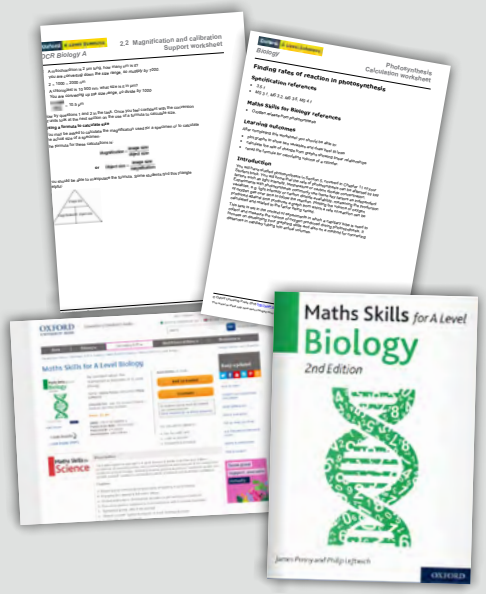
Oxford University Press

A Level Biology Transition Pack – Student worksheets with answers covering the fundamentals of A Level Biology including key language, knowledge and calculations.

A Level Biology Topic Support – Student support worksheets with answers covering many challenging topics from the A Level Biology course, including the cell cycle, oxygen dissociation curves and conservation.

A Level Biology Maths Skills Support – Student worksheets with answers focused on mathematical parts of the specification, including the Hardy-Weinberg equation, rates of reaction calculations and chi-squared test.

Maths Skills for A Level Biology, James Penny and Philip Leftwich – workbook detailing mathematical skills, worked examples and practice questions needed for A Level Biology.



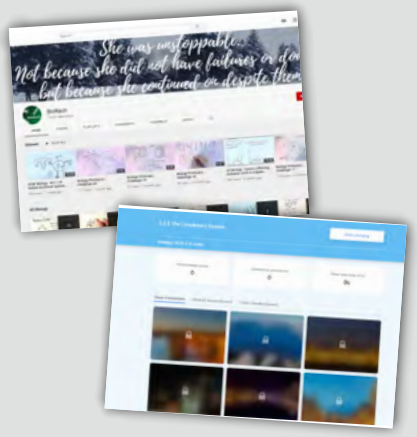
BioRach

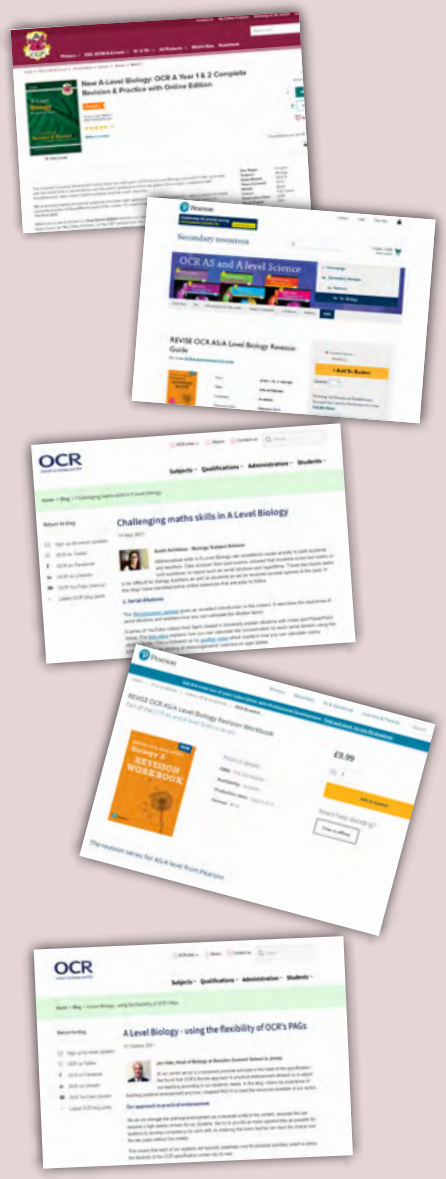
A YouTube channel with a huge selection of free videos covering the A Level Biology specification. It includes a specific playlist looking at Maths in Biology and Biology Pictionary which is great for revision.

Seneca Learning

Seneca Learning goes through our specification in a logical order and allows students to revisit all topics for revision. Students can set up their own independent accounts and teachers can assign them to classes which allows them to set assignments and track progress. There is a course for our specification which includes revision activities, end of topic tests and some A-A* specific sections.

There is also a specific course with self-marking assessments which allow students to check and recheck their knowledge.





Non-endorsed resources (cont)

Revision guides

OUP

A Level Biology for OCR A Revision Guide

A Level Biology for OCR A Year 2 Revision Guide

CGP

A Level Biology OCR A Complete Revision and Practise

Pearson

Revise OCR AS/A Level Biology Revision Guide

Revise OCR AS/A Level Biology Revision Workbook

Keep connected

Our A Level Biology resources – the best bits
This blog gives an overview of some of the best resources to support your teaching available on our website.

Challenging maths skills in A Level Biology
This blog highlights some resources on serial dilutions and logarithms and gives examples of past paper questions.

Transition from GCSE to A Level Biology
In this blog we shared five resources to support the transition from GCSE to A Level.

A level Biology - Using the flexibility of OCR's PAGs
In this blog one of our centres explains how the they used OCR's flexible approach to practical endorsement to available resources at their centre.

Get in touch

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