

## **SUBJECT:**

**If you are interested in studying this subject at A Level, please see below for a range of things that you can do to help you bridge the gap between GCSE and A Level, and make a flying start when you join us.**

<p><b>A Level Specificati on that we use</b></p>	<p><b>OCR Biology A</b> <b>A Level Biology A for OCR Student Book</b> <i>By A. Fullick, J. Locke, P. Bircher</i> Published by OUP, ISBN 978-0-19-835192-4</p>
<p><b>5 to Read - Recomme nded Reading</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Superbugs: The race to stop an epidemic</b> Author: Matt McCarthy MD</li> <li>2. <b>The Gene – an intimate history</b> Author: Siddhartha Mukherjee</li> <li>3. <b>Almost like a whale</b> Author: Steve Jones</li> <li>4. <b>Cell Biology, Genetics, Molecular Biology: Evolution and Ecology</b> Author: P.S Verma</li> <li>5. <b>The Selfish Gene</b> Author: Richard Dawkins</li> </ol>
<p><b>5 to Watch - Document aries and Films</b></p>	<p><b>Topic - Biodiversity and Evolution:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Virunga</li> <li>• Life</li> <li>• Planet Earth</li> </ul> <p><b>Topic – Health and disease:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What the Health</li> <li>• Pandemic: How to prevent an outbreak</li> </ul> <p><b>All available on Netflix or BBC iPlayer</b></p>
<p><b>5 to Browse - Useful Websites for general research</b></p>	<p><a href="http://www.who.int">www.who.int</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The newsroom has many interesting articles and commentaries on current global health issues</li> </ul> <p><a href="http://www.ibiblio.org/virtualcell/index.htm">http://www.ibiblio.org/virtualcell/index.htm</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The virtual cell webpage</li> </ul> <p><a href="https://royalsociety.org/">https://royalsociety.org/</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Podcasts, news and interviews with scientists about recent scientific developments</li> </ul> <p><a href="https://www.bmj.com/">https://www.bmj.com/</a></p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>British Medical Journal Website</b> <a href="http://www.accessexcellence.org/RC/VL/GG/">http://www.accessexcellence.org/RC/VL/GG/</a></li> <li>• <b>Illustrations of processes of biotechnology</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Other Suggestions</b></p>	<p><b>The course begins with how the cell works (structures, biological molecules and properties of water), Crash Course: Biology which is found on YouTube provides recaps of these topics in 10 to 15 minute videos Link: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL3EED4C1D684D3ADF">https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL3EED4C1D684D3ADF</a></b></p> <p><b>YouTube Education has a variety of resources which can be used to revise general lab skills which will be needed to complete the Practical Endorsement portion of the course. Recommended:</b></p> <p><b>Microscope technique -</b> <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tVcEEw6qbBQ">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tVcEEw6qbBQ</a></p> <p><b>General Lab Safety -</b> <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VRWRmIEHr3A">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VRWRmIEHr3A</a></p> <p><b>Measurement in Science -</b> <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oAtDAoqdExw">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oAtDAoqdExw</a></p> <p><b>Testing for Biological Molecules -</b> <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/z3wr2nb/revision/1">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/z3wr2nb/revision/1</a></p> <p><b>Investigating osmosis -</b> <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k1O9jBHgsxs">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k1O9jBHgsxs</a></p> <p><b>Handbooks produced by OCR</b></p> <p><b>Mathematical Skills</b> <a href="https://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/294471-biology-mathematical-skills-handbook.pdf">https://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/294471-biology-mathematical-skills-handbook.pdf</a></p> <p><b>Practical Skills</b> <a href="https://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/294468-biology-practical-skills-handbook.pdf">https://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/294468-biology-practical-skills-handbook.pdf</a></p> <p><b>General Interest</b></p> <p><b>TED Talks -</b> <a href="https://www.ted.com/talks">https://www.ted.com/talks</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Talks from experts in a variety of fields</b></li> </ul> <p><b>In Our Time: Science – A BBC Radio 4 Podcast</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Episodes on a variety of scientific topics</b></li> </ul>