

AS/A Level Environmental Science



Entry Criteria:

- You will need to achieve the pathway criteria, please see the prospectus for further information
- You will need to achieve a Grade 5 or above in GCSE Science
- You will need to achieve a Grade 4 or above in GCSE Mathematics
- A Grade 4 in Geography is preferable but not essential.

Coursework/Examination Requirements:

A Level Assessment Two written examinations each worth 50% each.

Awarding Body/Specifications: AQA

Advanced Level (A Level): Environmental Science involves gaining a deep and well informed insight into the environment and the scientific processes that control and affect it. The course aims to consider environmental events and cycles, the human impacts on these and the strategies that can be used to reduce problems caused. Students are also taught how to collect, analyse and interpret information. Our world is changing – population is increasing, resources are diminishing and ecosystems are threatened. Environmental Science offers the opportunity for students to understand our environment and develop sustainable strategies for environmental management. **The following units will be covered on this course:**

AS - Year 12 Unit

The Living Environment

- Biodiversity of Life on Earth
- Conservation
- Coral Reefs, Antarctica, Tropical Rainforests
- Life Processes in the Biosphere

The Physical Environment

- Resources and Exploitation
- Air, Water and Land
- Sustainability
- Research Methods.

A Level - Year 13 Unit

Energy Resources and Environmental Pollution

- Energy Supply and Resources
- Atmosphere, Terrestrial and Aquatic Pollution

Biological Resources and Sustainability

- Population Growth
- Food Production and Forestry Systems
- Sustainability.

Advanced Subsidiary (AS): There is not an option to study this as an AS Level equivalent qualification as this is a two-year course.

Progression: Most A Level Environment Science students go on to study at Higher Education to follow courses related to Science, Geography or the Environment. Environmental Science is particularly suited for careers relating to Environmental Management, Planning, Conservation or Industry. Given the increasing need for environmental planning, the wide range of skills taught in the classroom are very attractive to both employers and universities.

Opportunities: There are ample opportunities to study beyond the classroom, making use of local environments and ecosystems. Students will undertake a fieldtrip to the Norfolk Broads at the start of the course and four days of fieldwork for the full A Level course.