



## Saint Olave's Biology Department 2021

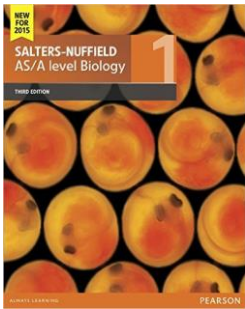
Dear Student

Welcome to the Biology department!

Whether you intend to study the subject for the just one year or for the full two years, we know that you will find your time with us both interesting and rewarding.

Our A level biology specification is **Edexcel A (Salters Nuffield)**. The Year 12 course consists of 4 topics. Each A level group will have two teachers teaching topics 1 and 2 up to Christmas, and topics 3 and 4 from January onwards. There will be no coursework but a series of core practicals through which you will develop investigative and lab skills.

We encourage you to purchase a copy of the course textbook before September:



**Salters-Nuffield AS/A level Biology (NEW FOR 2015) student book 1, published by Pearson. ISBN-13: 978-1447991007**

This is an excellent textbook, easily obtainable from any good book shop or from Amazon at around £33 (note: you may be able to buy a used copy for less). It is absolutely essential that all students own a copy by the beginning of the Autumn term, so if you have any problems at all with this, please let us know because we may be able to help.

### Transition Tasks

In preparation for the A level course, we would like you to complete some transition work to revise relevant GCSE material, study some of the important biochemistry which underpins A level Biology, and develop research and writing skills.

The tasks are as follows:

1. Complete the three transition tasks available as PDF documents.
2. Watch the video: An Introduction to Biological Molecules, making some notes as you watch. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t3VPjObFd0I>
3. Prepare a brief report, of no more than 2000 words, on a contemporary issue and area of research/development in the Biological Sciences. Your report should be word processed and well-structured, with appropriate sub-headings and relevant pictures/diagrams, and you should reference your sources clearly.

We look forward to meeting you all and working with you next year.

Ms C Marwood (Head of Biology)

Dr J Bradley

Dr A Sidhu

Mrs J Morrell

Mr F Affram