Ballymena Academy

CARE • ENGAGE • EXCEL • RESPECT

KINDNESS
COURAGE
OPPORTUNITY
TOGETHER

KS3 Biology
A Parents' Guide

Supporting your child to succeed today and in the future

Small steps today. Brighter tomorrows.

1 How to Support Home Study

Small steps at home make a big difference



- Encourage short, regular study sessions (10–15 minutes).
- Provide a quiet, distraction-free space.
- Ask simple questions about what they have learned.
- Use retrieval tools – knowledge organisers, flashcards or practice questions.
- Encourage them to explain ideas out loud.
- Help them find real-life examples in news, nature or everyday life.
- Celebrate effort and progress, not just results.

2 Why Retrieval Practice Matters

The more you recall, the more you remember



- Retrieval practice means actively recalling information from memory.
- It strengthens the brain, making learning longer lasting.
- Regular retrieval helps your child understand more, remember more and do better in class and assessments.
- Even short, frequent practice is more effective than last-minute cramming.
- Mistakes are part of learning – they help the brain grow!

3 Help Your Child Come to Class Ready to Learn

Prepared, positive and engaged



- Bring the correct equipment (pen, pencil, ruler, calculator).
- Have their knowledge organiser or notes.
- Complete any home learning tasks.
- Be ready to listen, ask questions and take part.
- Show curiosity and a willingness to learn.
- Good attendance and punctuality make a real difference.
- Every lesson is an opportunity to build their knowledge and skills.

4 Where Can Biology Take You?

Biology helps develop skills for many careers



- Biology helps develop skills that are useful in many careers and areas of life.
- It can lead to exciting opportunities in:
  - Medicine and healthcare
  - Veterinary science
  - Environmental conservation
  - Marine biology
  - Forensic science
  - Biotechnology and research
  - Agriculture and food science
  - Teaching
  - Sports and exercise science
  - Many more...



Key Message

"Prepared learners, brighter futures."

Your child's future could start with Biology.

PEOPLE | PLANET | POSSIBILITIES

A BRIGHTER, KINDER SCHOOL STARTS WITH YOU.