

The skills and/or topics needed to achieve Grades 8 & 9 are . . .

Excellent subject knowledge of all topics within B1-7.

The ability to link knowledge from topics together to answer level 3 (harder) questions.

The ability to evaluate data or information, for biology this involves giving advantages or supporting points, disadvantages or opposing points and an overall judgement.

The ability use your biological knowledge and understanding to tackle questions that are based upon examples you may not have seen before.

If aiming for Grades 8 & 9 you will need to particularly focus on this in your exam papers . . .

Make sure that you attempt every question (even the hardest one at the end of each paper)

Make sure that you revise for both papers equally as they both contribute the same amount to your grade (often students revise lots for paper 1 and run out of energy for paper 2)

Make sure that you use the correct units on maths questions

Make sure that your extended response answers are in a logical order (bullet points is fine but bullet points in the wrong order is not).

You can find resources to support your preparation at . . .

<https://www.physicsandmathstutor.com/biology-revision/gcse-aqa/>

When completing independent revision you should . . .

Remove distractions (phone) or install an app that blocks social media, e.g., Freedom app

Start early

Plan your time

Take a 15 minute break after each hour of study

Top tips for aiming for Grades 8 & 9

Self-belief, no negative talk allowed