

United Kingdom Biology Competitions

Intermediate Biology Olympiad 2026

Instructions for Teachers

A Quick reference guide

Before your students take part

- Log into the competition website and check your school details.
- Create student accounts for the exam.
- Allocate extra time to students entitled to this in public exams such as GCSE and A Level.
- Distribute accounts to students.

When your students take part

- Activate paper on the Invigilation page.
- Invigilate students under the same conditions as examinations such as GCSE and A Level.
- Invigilation must be in person on your school premises; **NO ONLINE SUPERVISION IS ALLOWED.**
- Deactivate paper(s) once all students have completed – this prevents students from opening a paper without supervision.

After the competition is over

- Check student details for certificates.
- View student results and download e-certificates.

B Teacher guidelines

The British Biology Olympiad must be treated with the same care and respect as a public examination such as GCSE or A Level.

- Student eligibility:








Y12 in England and Wales
Y13 in Northern Ireland
S5 in Scotland
equivalent year groups worldwide.

- The Intermediate Biology Olympiad 2026 comprises two 35-minute papers. They may be sat on separate occasions or back-to-back.
- Both papers must be completed within the published competition window.
- Students will require scrap paper, a pen/pencil and something capable of basic calculations.
- Students will require a device with continuous internet connection.
- A laptop is recommended. Mobile devices and tablets are compatible but not advised.
- Teachers must NOT log in and view the question papers.

C Teacher Dashboard

After login, teachers can update school details, manage competitions and view default student passwords.



-  Dashboard
-  Update Details
-  Manage Competitions
-  Invigilation
-  Payments
-  UKBC Home
-  Logout

D Creating student accounts

To create student accounts:

- Click Manage Competitions to see the list of available competitions.
- Click on ENROL to add a competition to your account. If payment is required, this will be done via STRIPE, using a credit or debit card. A receipt will be generated for your records and can be seen by clicking on Payments in the main menu.

Competitions				
Competition	Start	End	Places Bought	
British Biology Olympiad 2026	19/01/2026	28/12/2025	0	ENROL
Intermediate Biology Olympiad 2025	05/06/2025	12/06/2025	Unlimited	VIEW STUDENT ACCOUNTS AND RESULTS

- Once you have added a competition to your account, select VIEW STUDENT ACCOUNTS AND RESULTS next to the competition name.

Intermediate Biology Olympiad 2026

Rubric

The competition is open to students in the first year of post-16 education:

Y12 in England and Wales
Y13 in Northern Ireland
S5 in Scotland
Equivalent year groups worldwide.

The 2026 competition consists of two 35 minute papers to be taken online. Questions are set on topics students are likely to have covered at GCSE and in their first year of A level. Some additional ideas will be introduced requiring their problem solving skills and understanding of core principals.

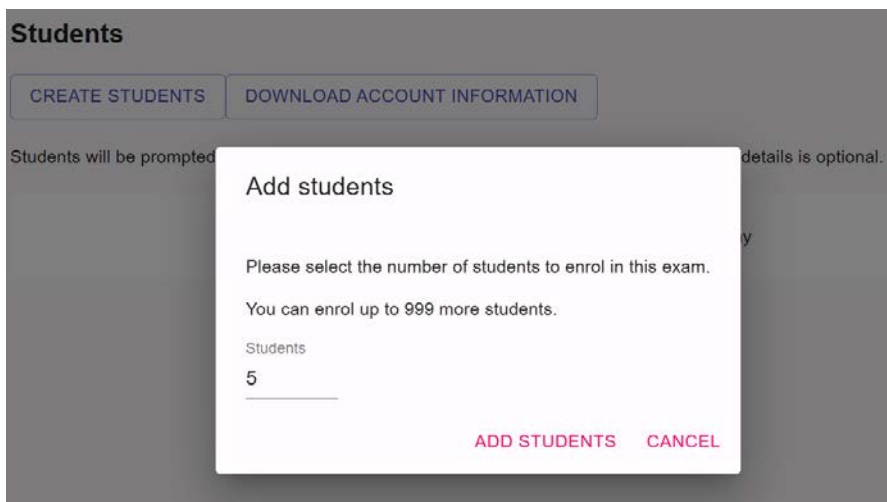
Students

CREATE STUDENTS

DOWNLOAD ACCOUNT INFORMATION

Students will be prompted to complete their details when they first sign in. Pre-filling student details is optional.

- Click CREATE STUDENTS.



The screenshot shows the 'Students' page with two buttons: 'CREATE STUDENTS' and 'DOWNLOAD ACCOUNT INFORMATION'. Below the buttons, a modal dialog titled 'Add students' is open. The dialog contains the following text: 'Please select the number of students to enrol in this exam. You can enrol up to 999 more students.' Below this text is a text input field labeled 'Students' with the number '5' entered. At the bottom right of the dialog are two buttons: 'ADD STUDENTS' and 'CANCEL'.

- Type how many student accounts you require and click ADD STUDENTS. It is advisable to only add as many as you need, you can always add more later. Having too many 'spare' accounts can make it difficult when navigating them and downloading results.
- Each student account will be allocated a unique username. They each have the same default password, to be found on your dashboard and Invigilation page.
- There is **NO NEED** to share these login details in advance. It is advisable not to do so as once you activate a paper, these accounts can be used to access it (See Section F).
- Students will enter their personal details when they first log in. It is possible for teachers to do this in advance but this is not required.

E Amending student details and resetting passwords

Teachers can amend a student's details and reset the password by clicking on the edit button on the right:

British Biology Olympiad 2026






British Biology Olympiad 2026


Rubric

Students

CREATE STUDENTS DOWNLOAD ACCOUNT INFORMATION

Students will be prompted to complete their details when they first sign in. Pre-filling student details is optional.

Username	Name	Year Group	SEN extra time (min)	
OVB075			0	 SEN EXTRA TIME
OVB074			0	 SEN EXTRA TIME
OVB073			0	 SEN EXTRA TIME
OVB072			0	 SEN EXTRA TIME
OVB071			0	 SEN EXTRA TIME



OYM282

OYM282

RESET USER PASSWORD

Name
Another Student

Year Group
Year Group A ▾

BACK CANCEL SAVE

- Teachers can also add extra time for students who are entitled to this. Click on **SEN EXTRA TIME** and add the number of minutes **for a 35-minute paper**, rounding up to the nearest minute. For example, if a student is entitled to 25% extra time, you would add 9 minutes.

Allocate SEN extra time

Extra time will be added before the student starts the paper. Reason is fixed as Special needs (SEN).

Extra time (minutes)

CANCEL SAVE

The additional time will be included in the timer visible to the students when sitting the paper:

A Student - Time remaining: 67:04 (+10m)

F Invigilating the competition

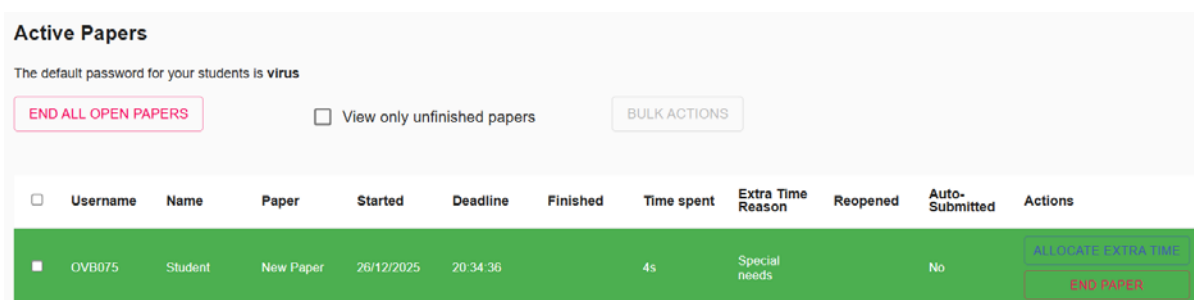
- On the **Invigilation** page, you can activate available papers and view students sitting the papers. **Papers can only be activated during the competition dates.**

- To start invigilation,

1. Click on **ACTIVATE PAPER** under the paper you want students to access. We strongly recommend that you only do this when students are about to take part.
2. Students will now be able to open the paper when they log into the competition website. (They may need to refresh the page.)
3. The system will automatically time the paper for each student and lock them out when the allotted time expires.

- You can see how long each student has spent on the paper on **Invigilation** page.

- If you have forgotten to add extra time to a student that is entitled to it, you can do so even after they have started the paper by clicking on the button in the Actions column.



The screenshot shows the 'Active Papers' section of a system. At the top, it states 'The default password for your students is virus'. Below this are three buttons: 'END ALL OPEN PAPERS' (pink), 'View only unfinished papers' (checkbox), and 'BULK ACTIONS' (grey). Below these is a table with the following columns: Username, Name, Paper, Started, Deadline, Finished, Time spent, Extra Time Reason, Reopened, Auto-Submitted, and Actions. A single row is visible with the following data: Username: OVB075, Name: Student, Paper: New Paper, Started: 26/12/2025, Deadline: 20:34:36, Finished: (empty), Time spent: 4s, Extra Time Reason: Special needs, Reopened: (empty), Auto-Submitted: No, and Actions: ALLOCATE EXTRA TIME (blue) and END PAPER (red).

<input type="checkbox"/>	Username	Name	Paper	Started	Deadline	Finished	Time spent	Extra Time Reason	Reopened	Auto-Submitted	Actions
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	OVB075	Student	New Paper	26/12/2025	20:34:36		4s	Special needs		No	ALLOCATE EXTRA TIME END PAPER

- Once your students have finished sitting a paper, you must **DE-ACTIVATE** it. This prevents any other students from logging in, should you have shared their login details with them.
- There are buttons to end papers next to each student account and at the top of the page. You can use these to lock papers if there is an interruption.

G Adding extra time due to interruptions

- If a student is entitled to extra time for similar online multiple choice public exams such as GCSE and A Level, this can be added in advance.
- If there is an interruption, such as a fire alarm, you can click on REOPEN PAPER for the relevant student. You will be asked to indicate the reason for this and add the number of minutes.
- You can select more than one student using the buttons on the left of their usernames and clicking on BULK ACTIONS.

Active Papers

The default password for your students is **darwin**

Data refreshes automatically every 10 seconds. You can also refresh the page for up-to-date data.

END ALL OPEN PAPERS

View only unfinished papers

BULK ACTIONS

<input type="checkbox"/>	Username	Name	Paper	Started	Deadline	Finished	Time spent	Extra Time Reason	Reopened	Auto-Submitted	Actions
<input type="checkbox"/>	OYM194	A Student	British Biology Olympiad 2025 Paper 2	05/02/2025	-	18:00:37	-	SEN	04/01/2026	No	REOPEN PAPER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	OYM173	A Student	British Biology Olympiad 2025 Paper 2	05/02/2025	14:53:29	14:53:48	45:18			No	REOPEN PAPER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	OYM195	A Student	British Biology Olympiad 2025 Paper 2	05/02/2025	14:54:32	14:53:32	43:59			No	REOPEN PAPER

Time spent	Extra Time Reason	Reopened	Auto-Submitted	Actions
-	SEN	04/01/2026	No	END PAPER
7s			No	ALLOCATE EXTRA TIME END PAPER

H Results and certificates

Results and e-certificates will be available to schools after the organisers have verified them once the competition is over. This is usually within a week.

Appendix

Instructions you can share with students.

Logging in for the first time

Your teacher will give you:

- a **username**
- a **default password**

When you log in **for the first time**, you must:

1. Enter your personal details (including **year group**)
2. **Choose a new password**

This is important

The default password is shared with other students at your school.

You **must** choose and remember a new password, as you will need it to log in again if you are taking the second paper at a different session. Your teacher can reset this for you if necessary.

Starting the paper

Once your teacher has activated the paper:

- Click **Sit Paper**
- The paper will open and the timer will start

At the top of the screen you will see:

- Your name
 - The **time remaining** for the paper
-

Answering questions

- Questions are shown one at a time
- You can move between questions using the **menu on the left**
- Your answers are **saved automatically** as you work

If you want to come back to a question later:

- Click **FLAG**
 - A flag symbol will appear next to that question in the menu
 - You can remove the flag at any time
-

Time and submission

- The timer counts down continuously
- When you reach the final question, you will see the option to **Submit Paper**
- You must confirm that your answers are final before submitting

If time runs out

- The system will **automatically submit your paper**
- You will not lose answers if the time expires

Once a paper is submitted, you **cannot return to it**.

Important reminders

- You will need:
 - scrap paper
 - a pen or pencil
 - a basic calculator
- Make sure you know your **new password** for the second paper
- Follow your teacher's instructions at all times