

Can we group snowdrops by their DNA sequence?

What did we do?

In 2024, Bedford School extracted the DNA of the chloroplasts in several snowdrop species and created a phylogenetic tree. The students doing the project learnt skills such as micropipetting, DNA electrophoresis and the use of coding in analysing data. The results were varied but enabled a phylogenetic tree to be produced.



What's next?

We are now running the project again in the academic year 2025-2026, but this time we are working with a new school, JFK Catholic School. By passing on knowledge and expertise, more students are able to gain the skills needed. We intend to look at new species of snowdrops as well as some that we did not get results from last time.