

GCSE Biology – Key Stage 4

Intent:

Science is changing our lives and is vital to the world's future prosperity; because of this all students should be taught essential aspects of the knowledge, methods, processes and uses of science. They should be helped to appreciate the achievements of science in showing how the complex and diverse phenomena of the natural world can be described in terms of a number of key ideas relating to the sciences which are inter-linked, and which are of universal application. Biology is the science of living organisms (including animals, plants, fungi and microorganisms) and their interactions with each other and the environment. The study of biology involves collecting and interpreting information about the natural world to identify patterns and relate possible cause and effect. Biology is used to help humans improve their own lives and to understand the world around them.

Implementation:

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
Year 10	Infection and response, Organisation Students explore how the body fights disease and how biological systems are structured to function effectively.	Cell biology, Inheritance Students dive into the building blocks of life, how energy flows in living organisms, and how genetic information is passed down.	Variation, Evolution, Ecology Students investigate the diversity of life, the process of natural selection, and how organisms interact within ecosystems.
Year 11	Cell biology, Organisation, Infection and response Students deepen their understanding of cells, biological systems, and disease, with a focus on advanced GCSE concepts.	Bioenergetics, Inheritance, Evolution Students build on earlier topics, examining energy in organisms, genetics, and the science of species development in greater detail.	Ecology, Exam preparation Students analyse ecosystems and focus on mastering key knowledge and skills for GCSE exams.

'You cannot teach a man anything; you can only help him discover it in himself.' Galileo Galilei