

Year 10 Biology

Biology GCSE follows the AQA specification and builds on work studied at KS3 whilst also encountering new content that links into A' level such as transport of chemicals.

There are 7 units (B1-B7) examined in two papers at the end of Y11; paper 1 examines B1-4, paper 2 examines B5-7
There is no coursework but there are "Required Practicals" which students will be asked about in exams - these are integrated into lessons throughout the course along with other practical work and the development of broader scientific skills

At the end of each topic students complete a topic test made up of past exam questions. This is then marked and graded and used to identify strengths and areas in need of attention. Note that many topics overlap and so end-of-topic assessments may contain elements from different units which also acts as retrieval practice.

Each lesson begins with a Brain in Gear retrieval task and a Key Learning Question. There will be teacher input of some kind followed by tasks which use prior learning to develop greater knowledge understanding. Once understanding is established then students develop their ability to apply this to unfamiliar situations.

Note: B7 is taught at the end of year 9

Year 10 Curriculum	Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2	Spring Term 1	Spring Term 2	Summer Term 1	Summer Term 2
Topic(s)	B1 - Cell Biology Cells, Microscopy, Micro -organisms, Cell division	B1 - Cell Biology (cont'd) Transport across cell membranes B2 - Organisation Digestion and enzymes	B2 - Organisation (cont'd) The heart and circulatory system, The breathing system, Cancer and other non communicable diseases	B3 - Infection and Response Communicable diseases, Immune response, Vaccination, development of drugs, Plant diseases	B4 - Bioenergetics Photosynthesis, Transpiration, Aerobic and anaerobic respiration	B4 - Bioenergetics (cont'd) Effects of exercise Y10 Summer exam (B1-B4) - Revision - Feedback - Support
Assessment	Tests half way through each topic usually set as homework Formal end of unit test End of Year 10 exam covering B1-B4					

Independent Work

Regular homework covering a variety of skills:

- GOALs (“Go Off And Learn”) for factual recall
- Application
- Practice exam questions to gain experience of recall, application, unfamiliar contexts and extended response
- Research
- Write ups of experimental work, especially work related to the Required Practicals
- Increasing use of Tassomai as the year progresses