

## Year 11 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 meiosis and mitosis.

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 and revised at the end of year 11

Year 11 Curriculum	Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2	Spring Term 1	Spring Term 2	Summer Term 1	Summer Term 2
Topic(s)	<b>B5 - Homeostasis and Response</b> Reflex responses, The eye, The brain, Temperature control Hormonal control including control of blood glucose and water balance, Puberty	<b>B5 - Homeostasis and Response (cont'd)</b> The menstrual cycle, Controlling fertility Plant hormones  <b>B6 -Inheritance, Variation and Evolution</b> DNA, Protein synthesis, Reproduction, Meiosis, Sex inheritance, Monohybrid crosses	<b>B6 - Inheritance, Variation and Evolution (cont'd)</b> Inherited diseases, Mendel, Cloning, Genetic engineering, Variation, Selective breeding, Evolution, Mutation, Antibiotic resistance, Speciation, Extinction	<b>B7 - Ecology</b> Competition, Adaptations, Food chains, Trophic levels and biomass, The carbon cycle, Food security, Farming and fisheries	<b>Revision and beginning of formal GCSE examinations</b>	

### Assessment

Tests half way through each topic usually set as homework  
Formal end of unit tests  
Mock exams in November (paper 1) and January (paper 2)

### 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