Key Stage 4 Subject Overview: GCSE BIOLOGY

Course Information: The course offers the chance to gain understanding of: **Biology**—Cell Biology, Organisation, Infection and response, Bioenergetics, Homeostasis, response, inheritance, variation and evolution and ecology.

Exam Board: AQA Subject Code: 8461

Course Structure:

	BIOLOGY PAPER 1	BIOLOGY PAPER 2
What is assessed	Topics 1-4Cell Biology, Organisation, Infection and response, Bioenergetics	Topics 5-7 Homeostasis, response, inheritance, variation and evolution and ecology.
Course weighting	**50% (1hour 45 minutes) - 100 marks** Written exam—multiple choice, structured, closed short answer and open responses.	**50% (1hour 45 minutes) - 100 marks** Written exam—multiple choice, structured, closed short answer and open responses.

Key Stage 4 Timeline

Year 9			Year 10			Year 11		
Autumn	Spring	Summer	Autumn	Spring	Summer	Autumn	Spring	Summer
BIOLOGY PAPER 1 Bioenergetics **Required experiments**	Cell Biology **Required experiments**	Organisation Infection and Response **Required experiments**	**REVISION Biology PAPER 1 MOCK EXAM**	**BIOLOGY PAPER 2** Homeostasis and response **Required experiments**	**Ecology Required experiments**	Inheritance, Variation and Evolution	**REVISION**	**GCSE EXAMS**

Assessment Criteria

8	6	4
Apply content knowledge to a range of events . Analyse data to draw conclusion . Evaluate arguments and justify own opinion based on scientific evidence . Recall equations and perform calculations and use answers from calculations to make recommendations . Make recommendations based on scientific evidence . Assess the limitation of scientific evidence. Apply practical skills to examination questions.	Applying knowledge from each topic to everyday events. Plan experiments to investigate scientific ideas. Compare results and processes. Interpret models and evidence to show how scientific ideas have changed over time. Recall equations to perform calculations. Apply practical skills to examination questions.	Explain all the concepts above. Carry out investigations to investigate hypothesis. Interpret graphs and tables. Carry out calculations using data sheet Make and interpret models to show scientific ideas. Recall and use equations. Recall practical skills in examinations.