



### **Introduction:**

Year 11 is the second full year of the IGCSE Biology course, following Year 10, although two introductory topics were covered at the end of year 9 (characteristics of living things and classification of organisms). In Year 11 Biology is taught as a separate subject and involves two double lessons (each of 80 minutes) per week. The course follows the Cambridge board IGCSE syllabus and is examined at the end of Year 11 in May/June. All students follow the extended curriculum.

### **Content:**

- Cells and organisation.
- Movement across membranes
- Biological molecules
- Enzymes and their function
- Nutrition (plants and animals)
- Transport (plants and animals)
- Disease and Infection
- Respiration and gas exchange
- Excretion and the kidney

### **Skills:**

Students will learn how to use evidence and to draw conclusions and will develop the ability to comment on the reliability and validity of experimental procedures. They will also develop practical skills involved in manipulating a variety of scientific apparatus with care and precision to obtain data and make relevant, careful observations.

### **Homework:**

Students will be given one written piece of homework per week (up to forty minutes long) and this will usually be related to material covered in class. It may be in the form of a worksheet to complete, or answering questions from the textbook. One learning homework per week is given to ensure students engage in ongoing revision of ideas.

### **Assessment:**

Grades C to A\* are available for those students who take the extended paper. All candidates take three Papers. These will be Paper 2 (multiple choice) together with Paper 4 (extended) and Paper 6 (practical). Regular practical sessions prepare students for the alternative to practical exam, which tests observation and recording skills. Mock exams for Paper 2 and 4 are held the second term, prior to the final IGCSE public examination which take place in May/June.

### **Digital usage in this subject:**

Digital usage at home- Students use google classroom to find the mark scheme to the exam questions that they have been given each week. The mark scheme is the only thing that is digital, the exam questions themselves are done in a physical booklet. They also have to do something called 'retrieval roulette' which is a spreadsheet on numbers that randomly assort questions for them to answer. These are also answered by hand in the homework booklet.

**Average time spent each homework:**

45 minutes per week.

**Resources and Materials:**

Textbook: Biology for IGCSE. Gareth Williams. 2nd edition Nelson Thornes. 2016.