Biology Curriculum Overview – Year 12

Sequencing of topics	What knowledge will students develop? (Including key terminology)	What skills will students develop? (Including literacy & numeracy)	Assessment opportunities	Homework opportunities	Personal development (Ursuline Values, Catholic Social Teaching, Cultural Capital, Cross- curricular, Careers)	Curriculum links
Topic 1: Lifestyle, health and disease	 Understand the importance of water as a solvent in transport, including its dipole nature. Know the difference between monosaccharides, disaccharides and polysaccharides, including glycogen and starch (amylose and amylopectin). Be able to relate the structures of monosaccharides, disaccharides and polysaccharides to their roles in providing and storing energy (β-glucose and cellulose are not required in this topic). Know how monosaccharides join to form disaccharides (glycogen and amylose) through condensation reactions forming glycosidic bonds, and how these can be split through hydrolysis reactions. Know how a triglyceride is synthesised by the formation of ester bonds during condensation reactions between saturated and unsaturated lipids. Understand why many animals have a heart and circulation (mass transport to overcome limitations of diffusion in meeting the requirements of organisms). Know the cardiac cycle (atrial systole, ventricular systole and cardiac diastole) and relate the 	 Autumn Terr Magnification Rearranging equations Order of magnitude Drawing results tables Analysing results Calculating an average Drawing graphs Interpreting graphs SD Serial dilutions Calculating concentration Unit conversion Causation and correlation Risk Probability Percentage change Scientific report writing Essay writing Reading scientific articles Mid-topic assessments Exam technique 	n 1 Summative assessment CPAC skills assessment Scientific report writing	 Practice exam questions done throughout Research Tasks/Projects Flipped Learning worksheet Satchel/Neeto Quizzes 	 United in harmony when we consider the wider uses CV treatment Grateful for the beauty in a cell and how it works Faith-filled and hopeful when seeing beyond the naked eye Discerning and joyful at the possibilities of science and medicine Leading others in pursuit of justice when planning and carrying out a practical Service and sacrifice when we recognise the scientific work that has been done before us 	KS1/2 O Digestion Nutrient transport in animals Healthy human development KS3 Y7 Cells Y8 Digestion Y8 Respiration KS4 Y10 Cell transport Y10 Homeostasis and the NS Y10 Respiration Y11 Enzymes and the digestive system Y11 Circulatory system KS5 Topic 2,3,7,8

	structure and operation of the mammalian heart,	\circ Dignity of the	
	including the major blood vessels, to its function.	human person	
0	Know how the relationship between heart	when	
	structure and function can be investigated	considering	
	practically. (Dissection)	healthcare	
0	Understand how the structures of blood vessels	○ Discerning and	
-	(capillaries, arteries and veins) relate to their	joyful when we	
	functions.	consider the	
	CORE PRACTICAL 1: Investigate the effect of	future of	
0	caffeine on heart rate in daphnia. (CPAC 1,4,8)	medical	
		healthcare	
0	Discuss the potential ethical issues regarding the	○Loving and	
	use of invertebrates in research.	compassionate/	
0	Understand the blood-clotting process	Serviam when	
	(thromboplastin release, conversion of	students	
	prothrombin to thrombin and fibrinogen to fibrin)	consider a	
	and its role in cardiovascular disease (CVD).	career helping	
0	Understand the course of events that leads to	others	
Ũ	atherosclerosis (endothelial dysfunction,	○ Dignity and	
	inflammatory response, plaque formation, raised	compassion/ rights and	
	blood pressure	responsibilities/	
		humility and	
0	Know how factors such as genetic, diet, age,	gentleness for	
	gender, high blood pressure, smoking and	those organisms	
	inactivity increase the risk of cardiovascular	that we use in	
	disease (CVD).	our practicals	
0	Know the benefits and risks of treatments for	• Dignity of God's	
	cardiovascular disease (CVD) (antihypertensives,	people	
	statins, anticoagulants and platelet inhibitors).	• Community and	
0	Be able to analyse and interpret data on the	participation	
	possible significance for health of blood	• Care for creation	
	cholesterol levels and levels of high-density	 Dignity of work 	
	lipoproteins (HDLs) and low-density lipoproteins	◦ Peace and	
	(LDLs).	reconciliation	
0	Know the evidence for a causal relationship	 ○Solidarity 	
	between blood cholesterol levels (total	oPersonal	
	cholesterol and LDL cholesterol) and	∘ Social	
	cardiovascular disease (CVD).	○Physical	
	Understand how people use scientific knowledge	∘Spiritual	
0	about the effects of diet including obesity	oMoral	
	indicators body mass index and waist-to-hip ratio,	○Cultural	
	malcators body mass much and waist-to-mp fatio,		

	0 0 0 0	 exercise and smoking to reduce their risk of coronary heart disease. CORE PRACTICAL 2: Investigate the vitamin C content of food and drink. (CPAC 3 and 6) Be able to analyse and interpret quantitative data on illness and mortality rates to determine health risks (including distinguishing between correlation and causation and recognising conflicting evidence). Be able to analyse data on energy budgets and diet. Understand the consequences of energy imbalance, including weight loss, weight gain, and development of obesity. Be able to evaluate the design of studies used to determine health risk factors including sample selection and sample size used to collect data that is both valid and reliable. Understand why people's perceptions of risks are often different from the actual risks including underestimating and overestimating the risks due to diet and other lifestyle factors in the development of heart disease. 						S O E O A O D O A O P O O C O O C O O C O O C O O C O C O	BTEC Health and ocial care BTEC Applied buman biology BTEC PE A-level Sociology BTEC Sociology A-level Psychology BTEC Psychology A-level Chemistry A-level Maths Biomedical cientist Biochemist Doctor Aurse Epidemiologist Research Autritionist Charity work Risk analysis		
			Autumn	Teri	m 2					<u> </u>	
Topic 2: Genes and health	0 0 0	 Know the structure and properties of cell membranes. Understand how models such as the fluid mosaic model of cell membranes are interpretations of data used to develop scientific explanations of the structure and properties of cell membranes. Understand what is meant by osmosis in terms of the movement of free water molecules through a partially permeable membrane (consideration of water potential is not required). Understand what is meant by passive transport (diffusion, facilitated diffusion), active transport 	Magnification Rearranging equations Order of magnitude Drawing results tables Analysing results Calculating an average Drawing graphs Interpreting graphs SD Serial dilutions Calculating concentration	0 0 0	Summative assessment Formative	-	Practice exam questions done throughout Research Tasks/Projects Flipped Learning worksheet Satchel/Neeto Quizzes	0	United in harmony when we appreciate the role of scientific break- throughs Grateful for the beauty in a cell and how it works Faith-filled and hopeful when seeing	KS1/2 0 KS3 0 0 0 0 0 0	Healthy human development Genetic variation Y7 Cells Y7 Variation Y7 Human reproduction Y8 Inheritance Y8 Breathing

I	(including the value of ATD as an increase list			h a cara da ba	1/6.4	
	(including the role of ATP as an immediate	• Unit conversion		beyond the	KS4	
	source of energy), endocytosis and exocytosis.	• Rates of reaction		naked eye	0	Y9 Evolution
0	Understand the involvement of carrier and	 Genetic diagrams 		• Discerning		(variation)
	channel proteins in membrane transport.	 Scientific report 		and joyful at	0	Y10 Cell
0	Know the properties of gas exchange surfaces in	writing		the		transport
	living organisms (large surface area to volume	 Essay writing 		possibilities of	0	Y10 Respiration
	ratio, thickness of surface, difference in	 Reading scientific 		science and	0	Y11 Circulatory
	concentration).	articles		medicine		system and NCD
0	Understand how the rate of diffusion is	• Mid-topic		 Leading others in 	0	Y11 Cell division
0	dependent on these properties and can be	assessments				and
	calculated using Fick's Law of Diffusion.	 Exam technique 		pursuit of		reproduction
				justice when	KS5	
0	Understand how the structure of the			planning and		Topic 1 2 6 7 9
	mammalian lung is adapted for rapid gaseous			carrying out a practical	0	Topic 1,3,6,7,8
	exchange.			• Service and		
0	CORE PRACTICAL 3: Investigate membrane			sacrifice		
	structure, including the effect of alcohol			when we		
	concentration or temperature on membrane			recognise the		
	permeability. (CPAC 1,3,5,8)			scientific		
0	Know the basic structure of an amino acid			work that has		
	(structures of specific amino acids are not			been done		
	required).			before us		
0	Understand the formation of polypeptides and			• Dignity of the		
Ũ	proteins (amino acid monomers linked by			human		
	peptide bonds in condensation reactions).			person when		
	Understand the significance of a protein's			considering		
0	primary structure in determining its three-			healthcare		
	dimensional structure and properties (globular			 Discerning 		
	and fibrous proteins and the types of bonds			and joyful		
	involved in its three-dimensional structure).			when we		
				consider the		
0	Understand the mechanism of action and the			future of		
	specificity of enzymes in terms of their three-			medical		
	dimensional structure.			healthcare		
0	Understand that enzymes are biological			• Loving and		
	catalysts that reduce activation energy.			compassionat		
0	Know that there are intracellular enzymes			e/ Serviam		
	catalysing reactions inside cells and extracellular			when		
	enzymes produced by cells catalysing reactions			students		
	outside of cells.			consider a		
				career		

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0	CORE PRACTICAL 4: Investigate the effect of enzyme and substrate concentrations on the		helping others	
	initial rates of reactions. (CPAC 1,3,5,6)		• Family and	
			community	
0	Know the basic structure of mononucleotides		when we	
	(deoxyribose or ribose linked to a phosphate		consider the	
	and a base, including thymine, uracil, cytosine,		impact of	
	adenine or guanine) and the structures of DNA		genetic	
	and RNA (polynucleotides composed of mononucleotides linked through condensation		disease	
	reactions).		 Dignity of 	
	•		God's people	
0	Know how complementary base pairing and the		o Community	
	hydrogen bonding between two complementary		and	
	strands are involved in the formation of the DNA		participation	
	double helix.		• Care for	
0	Describe DNA replication (including the role of		creation	
	DNA polymerase) and how Meselson and Stahl's		• Dignity of	
	classic experiment provided new data which		work	
	supported the accepted theory of replication of		• Peace and	
	DNA and refuted competing theories.		reconciliation	
0	Understand the process of DNA replication,		o Solidarity	
	including the role of DNA polymerase.		• Personal	
0	Understand how Meselson and Stahl's classic		o Social	
	experiment provided new data that supported		o Physical	
	the accepted theory of replication of DNA and		o Spiritual	
	refuted competing theories.		o Moral	
0	Understand the process of protein synthesis		o Cultural	
Ť	(transcription) including the role of RNA		• BTEC Health	
	polymerase, translation, messenger RNA,		and social	
	transfer RNA, ribosomes and the role of start		care	
	and stop codons.		• BTEC Applied	
0	Understand the roles of the DNA template		human	
Ŭ	(antisense) strand in transcription, codons on		biologyBTEC PE	
	messenger RNA and anticodons on transfer		BIEC PE A-level	
	RNA.		Sociology	
0	Understand the nature of the genetic code		• BTEC	
0	(triplet code, non-overlapping and degenerate).		Sociology	
			 A-level 	
0	Know that a gene is a sequence of bases on a		Psychology	
	DNA molecule that codes for a sequence of		• BTEC	
	amino acids in a polypeptide chain.		Psychology	

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	0	Understand how errors in DNA replication can give rise to mutations.						0	A-level Chemistry	
	0	Understand how cystic fibrosis results from one of a number of possible gene mutations.						0	A-level Maths	
	0	Know the meaning of the terms: gene, allele, genotype, phenotype, recessive, dominant, incomplete dominance, homozygote and heterozygote.						0 0 0	Biomedical scientist Biochemist Doctor Nurse	
	0	Understand patterns of inheritance, including the interpretation of genetic pedigree diagrams, in the context of monohybrid inheritance.						0	Epidemiologis t Research	
	0	Understand how the expression of a gene mutation in people with cystic fibrosis impairs the functioning of the gaseous exchange, digestive and reproductive systems.						0 0 0	Radiographer Midwife Gynaecology Geneticist	
	0	Understand the uses of genetic screening, including the identification of carriers, pre- implantation genetic diagnosis (PGD) and prenatal testing, including amniocentesis and chorionic villus sampling.								
	0	Understand the implications of prenatal genetic screening.								
	0	Be able to identify and discuss the social and ethical issues related to genetic screening from a range of ethical viewpoints.								
				Spring 1	Гerm 1					
Topic 3: Voice of the	0	Know that all living organisms are made of cells, sharing some common features. Know the ultrastructure of eukaryotic cells,	0	Magnification Rearranging equations	 Summative assessment Formative 	:	Practice exam questions done throughout	0	United in harmony when we	KS1/2 • Healthy human development
genome	0	including nucleus, nucleolus, ribosomes, rough and smooth endoplasmic reticulum, mitochondria, centrioles, lysosomes, and Golgi apparatus.	0 0	Order of magnitude Drawing results tables Analysing results Calculating an	 assessment CPAC skills assessment Scientific report 		Tasks/Projects		appreciate the role of scientific break- throughs	 Genetic variation KS3 Y7 Cells Y7 Variation
	0	Understand the role of the rough endoplasmic reticulum (Rer) and the Golgi apparatus in protein transport within cells, including their role in the formation of extracellular enzymes.	0 0 0	average Drawing graphs Interpreting graphs SD	writing	0	Satchel/Neeto Quizzes	0	Grateful for the beauty in a cell and how it works	 Y7 Human reproduction Y8 Inheritance

	 including cell wall, capsule, plasmid, flagellum, pili, ribosomes, mesosomes and circular DNA. Be able to recognise the organelles in 3.2 from electron microscope (EM) images. Understand the role of mitosis and the cell cycle in producing identical daughter cells for growth and asexual reproduction. 	 Serial dilutions Calculating concentration Unit conversion Probability Genetic diagrams Scientific report writing Essay writing Reading scientific articles Mid-topic 	 Faith-filled and hopeful when seeing beyond the naked eye Discerning and joyful at the possibilities of science and medicine Leading 	KS4 O Y9 Evolution (variation) O Y10 Cell transport O Y10 Respiration O Y11 Circulatory system and NCD O Y11 Cell division and reproduction
c	CORE PRACTICAL 5: Understand how to prepare and stain a root tip squash to observe the stages of mitosis. (CPAC 3,4,5,8,10)	assessmentsExam technique	others in pursuit of justice when	• Topic 1,2,6,7,8
c	Understand how mammalian gametes are specialised for their functions (including the acrosome in sperm and the zona pellucida in the egg).		 planning and carrying out a practical Service and sacrifice 	
с	Know the process of fertilisation in mammals, including the acrosome reaction, the cortical reaction and the fusion of nuclei.		when we recognise the scientific	
с	 Know that a locus (loci) is the location of genes on a chromosome. 		work that has been done before us	
с	chromosome and sex linkage.		 Dignity of the human 	
с	 Understand the role of meiosis in ensuring genetic variation through the production of non- identical gametes as a consequence of independent assortment of chromosomes and crossing over of alleles between chromatids (details of the stages of meiosis are not required). 		 person when considering healthcare Discerning and joyful when we consider the 	
С	 Understand what is meant by the terms 'stem cell, pluripotency and totipotency'. 		future of medical	
с	Be able to discuss the way society uses scientific knowledge to make decisions about the use of stem cells in medical therapies.		 healthcare Loving and compassionat e/ Serviam when 	

C				students	
	through differential gene expression, producing			consider a	
	active mRNA leading to synthesis of proteins,			career	
	which in turn control cell processes or determine			helping	
	cell structure in animals and plants including lac			others	
	operon.		0	Family and	
c	Understand how phenotype is the result of an			community	
C	interaction between genotype and the			when we	
	environment.			consider the	
				impact of	
С				genetic	
	methylation and histone modification) can			disease	
	modify the activation of certain genes.		0	Dignity of	
C	Understand how epigenetic changes can be			God's people	
	passed on following cell division.		0	Community	
c	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			and	
C	by multiple alleles for the same gene at many			participation	
	loci (polygenic inheritance) as well as the		0	Care for	
			-	creation	
	environment and how this can give rise to		0	Dignity of	
	phenotypes that show continuous variation.		Ŭ	work	
			0	Peace and	
			Ŭ	reconciliation	
			0	Solidarity	
			0	Personal	
				Social	
			0		
			0	Physical	
			0	Spiritual	
			0	Moral	
			0	Cultural	
			0	BTEC Health	
				and social	
				care	
			0	BTEC Applied	
				human	
				biology	
			0	BTEC PE	
				A-level	
				Sociology	
			0	BTEC	
				Sociology	

		Spring	Term 2		 A-level Psychology BTEC Psychology A-level Chemistry A-level Maths Biomedical scientist Biochemist Doctor Nurse Epidemiologis t Research Geneticist 	
Topic 4: Biodiversity and natural resources	 Know the ultrastructure of plant cells (cell walls, chloroplasts, amyloplasts, vacuole, tonoplast, plasmodesmata, pits and middle lamella) and be able to compare it with animal cells. Be able to recognise the organelles in 4.7 from electron microscope (EM) images. Understand the structure and function of the polysaccharides starch and cellulose, including the role of hydrogen bonds between β-glucose molecules in the formation of cellulose microfibrils. Understand how the arrangement of cellulose microfibrils and secondary thickening in plant cell walls contributes to the physical properties of xylem vessels and sclerenchyma fibres in plant fibres that can be exploited by humans. Know the similarities and differences between the structures, position in the stem and function of sclerenchyma fibres (support), xylem vessels (support and transport of water and mineral 	 Magnification Rearranging equations Order of magnitude Drawing results tables Analysing results Calculating an average Drawing graphs Interpreting graphs SD Serial dilutions Calculating concentration Unit conversion Hardy-Weinberg SSDI Measuring biodiversity Species richness Species evenness 	 Summative assessment Formative assessment CPAC skills assessment Scientific report writing 	 Practice exam questions done throughout Research Tasks/Projects Flipped Learning worksheet Satchel/Neeto Quizzes 	 United in harmony when we consider the biodiversity of species and the importance of maintaining this worldwide Grateful for the beauty in a cell and how it works Faith-filled and hopeful when seeing beyond the naked eye and the impact of 	 KS1/2 Animal life cycles Plant growth and health Adaptation Function of plant parts Animal survival Classification Habitats Food chains Adaptation and the environment KS3 Y7 Cells Y7 Interdependence Y8 Evolution KS4 Y9 Evolution Y10 photosynthesis

 ions) and phloem (translocation of organic solutes). CORE PRACTICAL 6: Identify sclerenchyma fibres, phloem sieve tubes and xylem vessels and their location within stems through a light microscope. (CPAC 3,4,5,8,10) CORE PRACTICAL 8: Determine the tensile strength of plant fibres practically. (CPAC 1,2,3,8) Understand the importance of water and inorganic ions (nitrate, calcium ions and magnesium ions) to plants. Understand how the uses of plant fibres and starch may contribute to sustainability, including plant-based products to replace oil-based plastics. CORE PRACTICAL 7: Understand how to investigate plant mineral deficiencies practically. (CPAC 1,2,3,5,6,8) Understand the development of drug testing from historic to contemporary protocols, including William Withering's digitalis soup, double blind trials, placebo, three-phased testing. Understand the conditions required for bacterial growth. CORE PRACTICAL 9: Investigate the antimicrobia properties of plants, including aseptic techniques for the safe handling of bacteria.(CPAC 1,3,5,8,9) Know that over time the variety of life has become extensive but is now being threatened by human activity. Understand the terms biodiversity and endemism. Know how biodiversity can be measured within a species using genetic diversity by calculating the 	 plants on our lives Discerning and joyful at the possibilities of science and medicine Leading others in pursuit of justice when planning and carrying out a practical Service and sacrifice when we recognise the scientific work that has been done before us Dignity of God's people Community and participation Care for creation Dignity of work Peace and reconciliation Social Physical Spiritual 	 Y10 Ecosystems and trophic levels Y11 Effect of humans
habitat using species richness and within a		

r				TEO IL III	
	• H = <u>number of heterozygotes</u>			TEC Health	
	number of individual s in the population			nd social	
	• Know how biodiversity can be compared in			are TEC Applied	
	different habitats using Simpson's diversity index			uman	
	(D):			iology	
	N(N-1)			TEC PE	
	$(D) = \frac{N(N-1)}{\sum n(n-1)}$			-level	
	\circ $\sum n(n-1)$			ociology	
				TEC	
	• Understand the concept of niche and be able to			ociology	
	discuss examples of adaptation of organisms to			level	
	their environment (behavioural, physiological			sychology	
	and anatomical).			TEC	
	 Understand how natural selection can lead to 		P	sychology	
	adaptation and evolution.		0 A	A-level	
	• Understand how the Hardy-Weinberg equation		С	hemistry	
	can be used to see whether a change in allele		0 A	A-level	
	frequency is occurring in a population over time.		N	/laths	
	• Understand that reproductive isolation can lead		о В	iomedical	
	to accumulation of different genetic information			cientist	
	in populations potentially leading to the			iochemist	
	formation of new species.			nvironmenta	
	 Understand that classification is a means of 			st	
	organising the variety of life based on			oologist	
	relationships between organisms using			otanist	
	differences and similarities in phenotypes and in			iology esearch	
	genotypes, and is built around the species			ieneticist	
	concept.			tatistics	
			0 3	tatistics	
	 Understand the process and importance of critical evaluation of new data by the scientific 				
	community, which leads to new taxonomic				
	groupings, including the three domains of life				
	based on molecular phylogeny, which are				
	Bacteria, Archaea, Eukaryota.				
	 Be able to evaluate the methods used by zoos 				
	and seed banks in the conservation of				
	endangered species and their genetic diversity,				
	including scientific research, captive breeding				
	programmes, reintroduction programmes and				
	education.				

Summer Term

The curriculum for the summer term is determined by the progress and achievements of each A-Level group individually. For example, a group that is achieving as expected may proceed to Year 13 Biology topics, however, a group that is underperforming will require revision and intervention. In this manner our Biology curriculum is adapted to suit the unique needs of each group. The outcomes of this decision might be:

- Continuation of the A-level Biology course (Year 13 topics)
- Revision of Year 12 content
- Exam technique review
- o Math skills
- CPAC practical skills review