PCHS Curriculum Information - Year 9

Course Title: Biology Exam Board: AQA Specification Code: 8462

How will students be assessed?

Students will sit two external exams at the end of Year 11. Each paper is worth 50% of their final GCSE grade. All exams will be 1 hour and 45 minutes in length requiring students to answer structured, closed short answer and open response questions. Questions will be knowledge based as well as drawing on the practical work that students have completed throughout the course.

Biology GCSE Paper 1: This will assess the topic areas of cell biology, organisation, infection and response and bioenergetics.

Biology GCSE Paper 2: This will assess the topic areas of homeostasis and response, inheritance, variation and evolution and ecology.

KEY CONTENT

Half Term 1

Cells and Microscopy

Prokaryotic and Eukaryotic cells

Structure and Function of organelles

Use of Microscopes

Half Term 2

Cells

Structure and Function of organelles

Assessment on cells

Mitosis and stem cells

Mitosis and the cell cycle

Stem cells and application of stem cell technology

Half Term 3

Mitosis and stem cells

Mitosis and the cell cycle

Stem cells and application of stem cell technology

Assessment on Mitosis, stem cells and the cell cycle.

Transport

Diffusion, osmosis and active transport Application of knowledge to biological situations

Half Term 4

Transport

Diffusion, osmosis and active transport Application of knowledge to biological situations

Assessment on transport

KEY CONTENT

Half Term 5

Proteins and the digestive system

Structure and function of the digestive system Food testing

Half Term 6

Proteins

Enzymes

Factors affecting enzyme action

Assessment on enzymes and digestion