



S3 Biology Information

This is an important document – please keep it safe

In S3 biology students are taught a broad, general biology course based around the Curriculum for Excellence 4th level outcomes. The course delivered is called 'Life' and consists of the following modules:

- Life on Earth

Life on Earth examines the variety of life on the planet, in various ecosystems and the relationships between living things and their environments as well as the impact of humans.

- Life and Technology

Students learn how various parts of their bodies work (with a particular focus on the heart and lungs), how to keep healthy and how to measure health as well and the science behind the health industry.

- Continuing Life

This topic looks at growth, reproduction in living things and how biologists can use knowledge of DNA and inheritance to treat illnesses.

Learning outcome sheets are issued for each unit and both vocabulary and summary notes are available on the class one note to help students to revise.

Assessment

Students collect evidence of their learning in profile folders as the year progresses. They are assessed in a variety of ways:

- ✓ Presentations
- ✓ Check tests
- ✓ Investigative lab reports
- ✓ Written tests
- ✓ Practical tasks
- ✓ Creative tasks- leaflets, posters, letters.
- ✓ Theory into practice booklets (problem solving)

When students are given an assessed task, they are issued with a criteria sheet that must be returned with their work on the day of assessment.

The level of effort that students put into their assessment tasks is very important, the data we collect allows us to set the correct pathway for our learners in S4 (see next steps below).

For progression and support P.T.O

Next Steps

In S4, pupils will follow a biology course at National 3, 4 or 5 level. The National 5 Biology course assumes learners have achieved all relevant CFE fourth level Experiences and Outcomes before beginning the course.

If students have not shown evidence of this during S3, they will start on a National 3 or 4 pathway in S4, with the option to move onto National 5 level in S5/6

Homework

Homework is an important part of the biology course, it allows students to receive feedback on their learning and look at ways to improve. Failure to hand in homework results in communication with home via an attainment notice or text.

Supporting study at home

Resources are stored on one note. Students can access this by using office 365. Your teacher will show you how to access it.

Some useful revision websites

http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/websites/11_16/site/science.shtml

<http://www.edubuzz.org/plbio/national-4/>

<http://www.oronsay.org/Nat5.htm>

<http://www.hamiltonscience.org/gensci.html>

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Student declaration (please sign cut-off and return to class teacher by _____):

I have read and understood the expectations and requirements in S3 biology.

Student signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____