



## Higher Biology Information

This is an important document – please keep it safe

Welcome to Higher Biology!

In Higher, **pupils** you **are taught** biology in 3 units:

- **Unit 1: DNA and the Genome**

Structure of DNA ♦ replication of DNA ♦ gene expression ♦ cellular differentiation ♦ the structure of the genome ♦ mutations ♦ evolution ♦ genomic sequencing

- **Unit 2: Metabolism and Survival**

Metabolic pathways ♦ cellular respiration ♦ metabolic rate ♦ metabolism in conformers and regulators ♦ metabolism and adverse conditions ♦ environmental control of metabolism ♦ genetic control of metabolism

- **Unit 3: Sustainability and Interdependence**

Food supply, plant growth and productivity ♦ plant and animal breeding ♦ crop protection ♦ animal welfare ♦ symbiosis ♦ social behaviour ♦ components of biodiversity ♦ threats to biodiversity

We begin the course with Unit 3. In addition to the content covered you will also develop your scientific investigative, literacy and numeracy skills. Problem solving is worth 30% of the final exam!

### **Assessments**

It is no longer mandatory to pass unit assessments in order to sit the final higher exam, however, we collect back up unit evidence in case you need to change level later in the year.

**It is important that you consistently try your best throughout the year.** We use the collected assessment evidence to judge how well you are coping with course material, and to help us predict how well you will do in the final exam.

### Approximate Assessment Timeline

<b>Unit</b>	<b>Assessment</b>	<b>Approximate Date</b>
<b>Unit 3: Sustainability and Interdependence</b>	Unit test Grading Test	4 <sup>th</sup> October 2018
	Assignment	tbc
<b>Unit 1: DNA and the Genome</b>	Unit test Grading Test	12 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2018
<b>Unit 2: Metabolism and Survival</b>	Outcome 1 lab report	28 <sup>th</sup> March 2019
	Unit test Grading Test	

### Next Steps

In S6, you can progress to Advanced Higher Biology. The class teacher will use the evidence generated in 3<sup>rd</sup> year to decide on the best learning pathway.

You must have a very good understanding of Higher to progress to Advanced Higher. We find that a minimum of a Higher 'B' grade is needed in order to be successful at Advanced Higher.

you

Homework for Higher Biology takes the form of exam style question exercises, how well you do in the homework is a good indicator of how well you will do in the final exam.

### Supporting study at home

Learning outcome sheets are issued for each unit and we work from booklets in class. Additional resources such as summary notes and revision questions are All S3 classes have been encouraged to make use of the resources we put online on **Edmodo**. There are learning outcomes for each unit as well as vocabulary lists and lots of other helpful documents. To use Edmodo, students just go on to the site and enter the appropriate Your teacher may also set up a class notebook, they will show you how to access this.

You will be issued with a scholar log in at the beginning of the year.

<http://scholar.hw.ac.uk/>

**dk7syy** - this is the code at the moment but they do change from time to time

Some other useful revision websites

<https://www.bbc.com/education/subjects/zm6tyrd>

<https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/47912.html>

Higher Biology is a **very** challenging course, with a huge level of content. It is very important that you keep on top of your workload and revise regularly.

**We recommended at least 1 hour of revision every week, in addition to your regular homework.**

(please sign and return to class teacher by \_\_\_\_\_)

Higher

