

## Year 12 Parents Evening: **A Level Biology**

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2020



Year 12 Teaching staff – Mr D Allison, Mr A Clarke, Mrs B Stewart Mrs N Yaqub

Lead teacher of Biology – Mr D Allison

This information sheet is to work in support of the communication that occurred during this evening with regards to the development of your child's progress in Biology.

### Course:

AQA Advanced Level Biology (<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/as-and-a-level/biology-7401-7402>)

### Examination Breakdown:

<b>Paper 1</b>	<b>Topics 1-4 (Year 12 course)</b> Short and long answer questions (76). Extended response question (15)	1 Biological molecules 2 Cells
<b>Paper 2</b>	<b>Topics 5-8 (Year 13 course)</b> Short and long answer questions (76). Comprehension exercise (15)	3 Organisms exchange substances with their environment 4 Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms 5 Energy transfers in and between organisms (A-level only)
<b>Paper 3</b>	<b>Topics 1-8 (2 year course)</b> structured questions, including practical (38) critical analysis of given experimental data (15) essay from a choice of two titles (25)	6 Organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments (A-level only) 7 Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems (A-level only) 8 The control of gene expression (A-level only)

### Independent Study Time:

In order to progress your child needs to make sure that they are consistently working outside of their biology lessons. For every hour of class time they should be dedicating **at least 1 hours** of private study.

At this stage the most effective way of ensuring progress is to be downloading and completing past examination papers or using a workbook to answer mock exam style questions.

It is imperative that your child engages with regular testing to ensure that they are able to place the correct biological theory within the context of the question. Your child should be moving away from learning the content in its raw state, but identifying their strengths and weakness by answering examination questions as a method of testing if they understand the theory that has been delivered during lesson time.



**Additional Support Available:**

- Use of Seneca learning which has been set up by your child's teacher.
- <https://pastpaperpanda.com/> - huge amount of past paper materials from all exam boards.
- Use of Padlet – an online platform created by the biology teachers here with a wealth of resources for student led learning <https://padlet.com/dallison6/vxwagljqshw3>
- Support videos made by Mr Phillips – the link to these is found under the support videos tab on padlet.
- A-level resources – these can be signed out to use in independent study periods via a sheet in Mr Allison's lab (WS4)

If you have any questions in the future regarding your child's progress then please do not hesitate in contacting me via the school office.

Regards

Mr Allison and the A-Level Team

