

Year 13 Biology Curriculum

(please note that some of the content in Topic 5: Photosynthesis and Climate Change may be taught at the end of Year 12 if there is time to do so).

Unit:	Core knowledge/skill development:	Sequei	nce:	Assessment	Literacy, numeracy, PSHE, FBV, other links	ACP and VAA development:	Home learning and enrichment
Topic 5: On the	5.1 Understand the	1.	Торіс	Term 1 October:	(v) A.4 -	Topic 1:	TERM 1:
Wild Side	terms ecosystem,		Introduction	Year 13 PPE Paper 1	geometry and		
	community,			(modified), which	trigonometry	Critical and logical	Each week, students are
	population and	2.	Ecosystems	will cover Topics 1-5.		thinking: interpreting and	expected to go over their
	habitat.		– Biotic and		A.4.1 Calculate	predicting climate	class notes at home and
			Abiotic	Term 2:	the	impacts.	ensure that they
	5.2 Understand that		Factors	End of Topic Test for	circumferences,		understand the concepts
	the numbers and			Topic 6 (mixed exam	surface areas and	Precision: remember the	covered. They should
	distribution of	3.	Studying	questions)	volumes of	names and functions of	use revision resources to
	organisms in a habitat		Ecosystems		regular shapes	parts of the	do this such as the
	are controlled by			Term 3 February:		photosynthesis pathways.	Physics and Maths Tutor
	biotic and abiotic	4.	Core	Year 13 PPE Paper 2	A.2.4 Solve		Website and their CGP
	factors.		Practical 10 –	(modified) which will	algebraic	Complex and multi-step	revision guide.
			Habitat	cover Topics 1-4 and	equations	problem solving: the	
	5.3 Understand how		Investigation	7.		ability to apply ideas	Homework 1:
	the concept of niche				A.1.1 Use an	about epigenetic	
	accounts for	5.	Succession	Term 4:	appropriate	changes to complex	Active learn assessments
	distribution and			End of Topic Test for	number of	problems as seen in the	to test prior knowledge
	abundance of	6.	Photosynthe	Topic 8 (mixed exam	significant figures	exam papers.	from Topics 1-4 and
	organisms in a		sis	questions)			Core Maths skills. This is
	habitat.				A.1.2 Find		self-assessing software
		7.	Photosynthe	Term 5: PPE for	arithmetic means		which will provide direct
	CORE PRACTICAL 10:		sis Part 2	Paper 3, which is			feedback.
	Carry out a study on			fully synoptic (Topics	A.1.3 Construct		
	the ecology of a	8.	Core	1-8) and involves	and interpret		Homework 2:
	habitat, such as using		Practical 11-	students reading an	frequency tables		
	quadrats and			article.	and diagrams,		



Unit	Core knowledge/skill development:	Sequence:	Assessment	Literacy, numeracy, PSHE, FBV, other links	ACP and VAA development:	Home learning and enrichment
	transects to	Photosynthe		bar charts and		Exam questions the
	determine distribution	sis		histograms		process of
	and abundance of					photosynthesis and
	organisms, and	9. Energy Flow		A.1.4 Understand		photosynthesis Core
	measuring abiotic	in		simple probability		Practical.
	factors appropriate to	Ecosystems				
	the habitat.			A.1.5 Understand		Homework 3:
		10. Evidence of		the principles of		
	5.4 Understand the	Climate		sampling as		Flip learning on the
	stages of succession	Change –		applied to		evidence for climate
	from colonisation to a	Temperature		scientific data		change.
	climax community.	Records				
				A.1.6 Understand		Homework 4:
	5.5 Understand the	11. Evidence of		the terms mean,		
	overall reaction of	Climate		median and		Revision homework for
	photosynthesis as	Change –		mode		the PPE assessment
	requiring energy from	Temperature				
	light to split apart the	Records		A.1.7 Use a		Homework 5:
	strong bonds in water			scatter diagram		
	molecules, storing the	12. Evidence for		to identify a		Revision homework for
	hydrogen in a fuel	Climate		correlation		the PPE assessment
	(glucose) by	Change –		between two		
	combining it with	Pollen in		variables		Homework 6:
	carbon dioxide and	Peat Bogs				
	releasing oxygen into			A.1.8 Make order		Exam questions on
	the atmosphere.	13. Evidence for		of magnitude		climate change evidence,
	5.6 Understand how	Climate		calculations		modelling and impact.
	phosphorylation of	Change –				
	ADP requires energy	Dendrochro				Homework 7:
	and that hydrolysis of	nology				



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	ATP provides an			A.1.9 Select and		
	immediate supply of			use a statistical		Therapy work following
	energy for biological	14. The Link		test		the PPE feedback.
	processes.	Between				
		Carbon		A.1.10		
	5.7 Understand the	Dioxide and		Understand		
	light-dependent	Global		measures of		
	reactions of	Warming		dispersion,		
	photosynthesis			including		
	including how light	15. Controversy		standard		
	energy is trapped by	Surrounding		deviation and		
	exciting electrons in	the Issue of		range		
	chlorophyll and the	Climate				
	role of these	Change		A.1.11 Identify		
	electrons in			uncertainties in		
	generating ATP,	16. Climate		measurements		
	reducing NADP in	Modelling		and use simple		
	photophosphorylatio			techniques to		
	n and producing	17. Effect of		determine		
	oxygen through	Climate		uncertainty when		
	photolysis of water.	Change on		data are		
		Flora and		combined		
	5.8 i) Understand the	Fauna				
	light-independent	Distribution		A.2.1 Understand		
	reactions as reduction			and use the		
	of carbon dioxide	18. Core		symbols: =, <,		
	using the products of	Practical 12:		$\langle\langle,\rangle\rangle_{,}\rangle_{,}$ $\propto_{,}$ $\sim_{.}$		
	the light-dependent	Temperature				
	reactions (carbon	and Enzyme				
	fixation in the Calvin	Activity				



Unit	Core knowledge/skill development:	Sequence:	Assessment:	Literacy, numeracy, PSHE, FBV, other links	ACP and VAA development:	Home learning and enrichment
	cycle, the role of GP,			A.2.2 Change the		
	GALP, RuBP and	19. Effect of		subject of an		
	RUBISCO).	Climate Change on		equation		
	ii) Know that the	Flora and		A.2.3 Substitute		
	products are simple	Fauna -		numerical values		
	sugars that are used	Developmen		into algebraic		
	by plants, animals	t		equations using		
	and other organisms			appropriate units		
	in respiration and the	20. Effect of		for physical		
	synthesis of new	Climate		quantities		
	biological molecules	Change on				
	(polysaccharides,	Flora and		Follows written		
	amino acids, lipids	Fauna – Life		procedures a)		
	and nucleic acids).	Cycles		Correctly follows		
	CORE PRACTICAL			written		
		21. Evidence by		instructions to		
	11: Investigate	Natural		carry out the		
	photosynthesis using	Selection –		experimental		
	isolated chloroplasts	Molecular		techniques or		
	(the Hill reaction). 5.9 Understand the	Evidence		procedures.		
	structure of	22. Evidence by		a) Correctly uses		
	chloroplasts in	Natural		appropriate		
	relation to their role	Selection		instrumentation,		
	in photosynthesis.	and		apparatus and		
		Molecular		materials		
	5.10 i) Be able to	Evidence		(including ICT) to		
	calculate net primary	Part 2		carry out		
	productivity. ii)			investigative		



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	Understand the	23. Speciation		activities,		
	relationship between			experimental		
	gross primary	24. The Carbon		techniques and		
	productivity, net	Cycle		procedures with		
	primary productivity			minimal		
	and plant respiration.	25. End of Unit		assistance or		
		Assessment		prompting.		
	5.11 Know how to					
	calculate the			b) Carries out		
	efficiency of biomass			techniques or		
	and energy transfers			procedures		
	between trophic			methodically, in		
	levels.			sequence and in		
				combination,		
	5.12 Understand the			identifying		
	different types of			practical issues		
	evidence for climate			and making		
	change and its causes			adjustments		
	(including records of			when necessary.		
	carbon dioxide levels,					
	temperature records,			c) Identifies and		
	pollen in peat bogs			controls		
	and			significant		
	dendrochronology),			quantitative		
	recognising			variables where		
	correlations and			applicable, and		
	causal relationships.			plans approaches		
				to take account		
	5.13 Understand the			of variables that		
	causes of					



Unit:	Core knowledge/skill development	Sequence	Assessment	Literacy, numeracy, PSHE, FBV, other links	ACP and VAA development:	Home learning and enrichment
	anthropogenic			cannot readily be		
	climate change,			controlled.		
	including the role of					
	greenhouse gases			d) Selects		
	(carbon dioxide and			appropriate		
	methane) in the			equipment and		
	greenhouse effect.			measurement		
				strategies in		
	5.14 i) Understand			order to ensure		
	that data can be			suitably accurate		
	extrapolated to make			results.		
	predictions and that					
	these are used in			a) Independent		
	models of future			thinking		
	climate change.					
				 solve problems 		
	ii) Understand that			set in practical		
	models for climate			contexts		
	change have					
	limitations.			 apply scientific 		
				knowledge to		
	5.15 Understand the			practical contexts		
	effects of climate					
	change (changing					
	rainfall patterns and					
	changes in seasonal					
	cycles) on plants and					
	animals (distribution					
	of species,					



Unit:	Core knowledge/skill development	Sequence:	Assessment	Literacy, numeracy, PSHE, FBV, other links	ACP and VAA development:	Home learning and enrichment
	development and life					
	cycles).					
	5.16 Understand the					
	effect of temperature					
	on the rate of					
	enzyme activity and					
	its impact on plants,					
	animals and					
	microorganisms.					
	5.17 Understand how					
	evolution (a change					
	in the allele					
	frequency) can come					
	about through gene					
	mutation and natural					
	selection.					
	5.18 Understand the					
	role of the scientific					
	community (scientific					
	journals, the peer					
	review process,					
	scientific conferences)					
	in validating new					
	evidence, including					
	proteomics and					
	genomics, that					
	supports the					



Unit:	Core knowledge/skill development:	Sequence:	Assessment	Literacy, numeracy, PSHE, FBV, other links	ACP and VAA development:	Home learning and enrichment
	accepted scientific					
	theory of evolution.					
	5.19 Understand how					
	isolation reduces					
	gene flow between					
	populations, leading					
	to allopatric or					
	sympatric speciation.					
	CORE PRACTICAL					
	12: Investigate the					
	effect of temperature					
	on the initial rate of					
	an enzyme-catalysed					
	reaction, to include					
	Q10. CORE					
	PRACTICAL					
	13: Investigate the					
	effects of					
	temperature on the					
	development of					
	organisms (such as					
	seedling growth rate,					
	brine shrimp hatch					
	rates).					
	5.20 Understand the					
	way in which scientific					



Unit	Core knowledge/skill development:	Sequence:	Assessment	Literacy, numeracy, PSHE, FBV, other links	ACP and VAA development:	Home learning and enrichment
	conclusions about					
	controversial issues,					
	such as what actions					
	should be taken to					
	reduce climate					
	change or the degree					
	to which humans are					
	affecting climate					
	change, can					
	sometimes depend					
	on who is reaching					
	the conclusions.					
	5.21 Understand how					
	knowledge of the					
	carbon cycle can be					
	applied to methods					
	to reduce					
	atmospheric levels of					
	carbon dioxide.					
	5.22 Understand how					
	reforestation and the					
	use of sustainable					
	resources, including					
	biofuels, are					
	examples of the					
	effective					
	management of the					
	conflict between					



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	human needs and conservation.					
Topic 6: Immunity, Infection and	6.1 Understand how to determine the time	1. Introduction to the Topic		A.3.1 Translate information	Topic 2:	TERM 2:
Forensics	of death of a	1		between	Big picture thinking	Homework 1: Active
	mammal by	2. DNA		graphical,	linking an understanding	Learn end of topic task
	examining the extent	Profiling		numerical and	of DNA profiling and gel	assessment for Topic 5
	of decomposition,			algebraic forms	electrophoresis to	and Prior Knowledge
	stage of succession,	3. DNA			content such as DNA	tasks. The self-marking
	forensic entomology,	Profiling Part		A.3.2 Plot two	replication which was	software will provide
	body temperature	2		variables from	learnt in Topic 3.	feedback to students.
	and degree of muscle			experimental or		
	contraction.	4. Core		other data	Speed and accuracy: the	
		Practical 14:			ability to apply and	Homework 2:
	6.2 Know the role of	Gel		A.3.3 Understand	analyse gel	
	micro-organisms in	Electrophore		that $y = mx + c$	electrophoresis results	Exam questions on DNA
	the decomposition of	sis		represents a	with both speed and	profiling and PCR.
	organic matter and	5. Determining		linear relationship	accuracy.	
	the recycling of	the Time of				Homework 3:
	carbon.	Death,		A.3.4 Determine	Collaborative:	
		Forensic		the intercept of a	Work in teams to	Core Practical write up
	6.3 Know how DNA	Entomology		graph	complete Core Practical	for the DNA Profiling
	profiling is used for	and			work where students	Core Practical.
	identification and	Succession		A.3.5 Calculate	investigate antibiotic	
	determining genetic			rate of change	resistance. Work in	Homework 4:
	relationships between	6. Determining		from a graph	teams, take on a variety	
	organisms (plants and	the Time of		showing a linear	of roles, evaluate work	Immune system and
	animals).	Death,		relationship	and take on the	pathogens exam
		Forensic				questions.



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	6.4 Know how DNA	Entomology		A.3.6 Draw and	feedback of other	
	can be amplified	and		use the slope of	students.	Homework 5:
	using the polymerase	Succession		a tangent to a		
	chain reaction (PCR).	Part 2		curve as a		Enzyme Rates Core
				measure of rate		Practical write up.
	CORE PRACTICAL	7. Structure of		of change		
	14: Use gel	Bacteria and				Homework 6:
	electrophoresis to	Viruses		a) Identifies		
	separate DNA			hazards and		Protein synthesis and
	fragments of different	8. Non-Specific		assesses risks		replication exam
	length.	Responses		associated with		questions.
		of the Body		these hazards,		
	6.5 Be able to	to Infection		making safety		Homework 7:
	compare the			adjustments as		
	structure of bacteria	9. The Specific		necessary, when		Revision for the AS Paper
	and viruses. 6.6	Immune		carrying out		1 Assessment.
	Understand how	Response		experimental		
	Mycobacterium			techniques and		
	tuberculosis (TB) and	10. The Specific		procedures in the		
	Human	Immune		lab or field.		
	Immunodeficiency	Response				
	Virus (HIV) infect	Part 2		b) Uses		
	human cells, causing	11. The Specific		appropriate		
	a sequence of	Immune		safety equipment		
	symptoms that may	Response		and approaches		
	result in death.	Part 3		to minimise risks		
				with minimal		
	6.7 Understand the	12. Tuberculosis		prompting.		
	non-specific	– Symptoms				
	responses of the					



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	body to infection,	13. Tuberculosis		a) Makes		
	including	– Symptoms		accurate		
	inflammation,	Part 2		observations		
	lysozyme action,			relevant to the		
	interferon, and	14. HIV/Aids –		experimental or		
	phagocytosis.	Symptoms		investigative		
				procedure.		
	6.8 Understand the	15. HIV/Aids –				
	roles of antigens and	Symptoms		b) Obtains		
	antibodies in the	Part 2		accurate, precise		
	body's immune			and sufficient		
	response including	16. Protein		data for		
	the involvement of	Synthesis		experimental and		
	plasma cells,			investigative		
	macrophages and	17. Protein		procedures and		
	antigen-presenting	Synthesis		records this		
	cells.	Part 2		methodically		
				using appropriate		
	6.9 Understand the	18. Preventing		units and		
	differences between	Pathogens		conventions.		
	the roles of B cells (B	Entry to the				
	memory and B	Body		b) Use and		
	effector cells) and T			application of		
	cells (T helper, T killer	19. Immunity		scientific		
	and T memory cells)			methods and		
	in the body's immune	20. The Effect of		practices		
	response.	Antibiotics				
		on Bacterial		 comment on 		
	6.10 Understand how	Growth		experimental		
	one gene can give			design and		



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	rise to more than one	21. How		evaluate scientific		
	protein through	Antibiotics		methods		
	posttranscriptional	Work				
	changes to			 present data in 		
	messenger RNA	22. The		appropriate ways		
	(mRNA).	Evolution of		 evaluate results 		
		Antibiotic		and draw		
	6.11 i) Know the major	Resistant		conclusions with		
	routes pathogens	Bacteria		reference to		
	may take when			measurement		
	entering the body. ii)	23. End of Unit		uncertainties and		
	Understand the role	Assessment		errors		
	of barriers in					
	protecting the body			 identify 		
	from infection,			variables		
	including skin,			including those		
	stomach acid, and			that must be		
	gut and skin flora.			controlled		
	6.12 Understand how					
	individuals may					
	develop immunity					
	(natural, artificial,					
	active, passive).					
	6.13 Understand how					
	the theory of an					
	'evolutionary race'					
	between pathogens					
	and their hosts is					



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	supported by the evasion mechanisms shown by pathogens.					
	6.14 Understand the difference between bacteriostatic and bactericidal antibiotics.					
	CORE PRACTICAL 15: Investigate the effect of different antibiotics on bacteria.					
	6.15 Know how an understanding of the contributory causes of hospital acquired infections have led to codes of practice regarding antibiotic prescription and					
	hospital practice that relate to infection prevention and control.					



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Topic 7: Run for	7.1 Know the way in	1. Topic		A.1.1 Use an	Topic 3:	TERM 3
your Life	which muscles,	Introduction		appropriate		
	tendons, the skeleton	introduction		number of	Self-regulation following	Homework 1:
	and ligaments	2. Joins and		significant figures	Core Practical feedback.	
	interact to enable	Movement		significant figures	COTC I TACLICAL ICCUDACK.	Active learn end of topic
	movement, including	WOVERNEIN		A.1.2 Find	Intellectual confidence	task assessment for Topic
	antagonistic muscle	3. Muscle		arithmetic means	when discussing the	6 and prior knowledge
	pairs, extensors and	Structure and		anumene means	ethics of working with	task for Topic 7.
	flexors.	Function		A.1.3 Construct	organisms in Biology.	
	IIEXUIS.	TUNCTON		and interpret	organisms in blology.	Homework 2:
	7.2 Understand the	4. Muscle		frequency tables	Connection finding	TIOITIEWOIK 2.
	process of	4. Muscle Structure and		and diagrams,	linking concepts between	Exam questions on
	contraction of skeletal	Function Part 2		bar charts and	Year 12 and 13.	respiration.
	muscle in terms of	TUNCTION FAIL 2		histograms		
	the sliding filament	5. ATP and		Thistograms		Homework 3:
	theory, including the	Glycolysis		A.1.4 Understand		TIOITIEWOIK J.
	role of actin, myosin,	ClyColysis		simple probability		Exam questions on
	troponin,	6. ATP and				aerobic capacity and
	tropomyosin, calcium	Glycolysis Part 2		A.1.5 Understand		cardiac output.
	ions (Ca2+), ATP and	Ciycolysis i art 2		the principles of		
	ATPase.	7. Electron		sampling as		Homework 4:
	ATFase.	Transport Chain		applied to		HOMEWORK 4.
	7.3 i) Understand the	and		scientific data		Exam questions on lung
	overall reaction of	Chemiosmosis		Scientific Gata		volumes and breathing
	aerobic respiration as	CHEITIIOSITIOSIS		A.1.6 Understand		rate.
	splitting of the	8. Electron		the terms mean,		
	respiratory substrate,	Transport Chain		median and		Homework 5:
	to release carbon	and		mode		
	dioxide as a waste	Chemiosmosis		mode		Evam questions on
		Part 2				Exam questions on homeostasis.
	product and reuniting	FdILZ				HUTHEUSLASIS.



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	of hydrogen with			a) Uses		
	atmospheric oxygen	9. Core Practical –		appropriate		Homework 6:
	with the release of a	Measuring		software and/or		
	large amount of	Respiration		tools to process		Exam questions on
	energy.			data, carry out		performance enhancing
		10. Anaerobic		research and		drugs.
	ii) Understand that	Respiration		report findings.		
	respiration is a many-					
	stepped process with	11. Aerobic		b) Cites sources		
	each step controlled	Capacity		of information		
	and catalysed by a			demonstrating		
	specific intracellular	12. Cardiac Output		that research has		
	enzyme.			taken place,		
		13. Control of a		supporting		
	7.4 Understand the	Single Heart		planning and		
	roles of glycolysis in	Beat		conclusions.		
	aerobic and					
	anaerobic respiration,	14. Control of		c) Numeracy and		
	including the	Heart Rate		the application of		
	phosphorylation of			mathematical		
	hexoses, the	15. Measuring Lung		concepts in a		
	production of ATP,	Volumes and		practical context		
	reduced coenzyme,	Breathing Rate				
	pyruvate and lactate			 plot and 		
	(details of	16. Control of		interpret graphs		
	intermediate stages	Breathing Rate				
	and compounds are			 process and 		
	not required).	17. Adaptation		analyse data		
				using appropriate		
				mathematical		



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	7.5 Understand the	18. Temperature		skills as		
	role of the link	Regulation		exemplified in the		
	reaction and the			mathematical		
	Krebs cycle in the	19. Homeostasis		appendix for		
	complete oxidation of			each science		
	glucose and	20. Disadvantages				
	formation of carbon	of Exercising		 consider 		
	dioxide (CO2), ATP,	too Much		margins of error,		
	reduced NAD and			accuracy and		
	reduced FAD (names	21. Disadvantages		precision of data		
	of other compounds	of Exercising				
	are not required) and	too Much of		d) Instruments		
	why these steps take	Too Little		and equipment		
	place in the					
	mitochondria, unlike	22. Performance-		 know and 		
	glycolysis which	Enhancing		understand how		
	occurs in the	Substances		to use a wide		
	cytoplasm.			range of		
		23. Performance-		experimental and		
	7.6 Understand how	Enhancing		practical		
	ATP is synthesised by	Substances Part		instruments,		
	oxidative	2		equipment and		
	phosphorylation			techniques		
	associated with the	24. End of Unit		appropriate to		
	electron transport	Assessment		the knowledge		
	chain in			and		
	mitochondria,			understanding		
	including the role of			included in the		
	chemiosmosis and			specification.		
	ATP synthase.					



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	7.7 Understand what					
	happens to lactate					
	after a period of					
	anaerobic respiration					
	in animals.					
	CORE PRACTICAL 16:					
	Investigate rate of					
	respiration.					
	7.8 i) Know the					
	myogenic nature of					
	cardiac muscle. ii)					
	Understand how the					
	normal electrical					
	activity of the heart					
	coordinates the heart					
	beat, including the					
	roles of the sinoatrial					
	node (SAN), the					
	atrioventricular node					
	(AVN), the bundle of					
	His and the Purkyne					
	fibres. iii) Understand					
	how the use of					
	electrocardiograms					
	(ECGs) can aid the					
	diagnosis of					



Unit:	Core knowledge/skill development:	Sequence:	Assessment	Literacy, numeracy, PSHE, FBV, other links	ACP and VAA development:	Home learning and enrichment
	cardiovascular					
	disease (CVD) and					
	other heart					
	conditions.					
	7.9 i) Be able to					
	calculate cardiac					
	output. ii) Understand					
	how variations in					
	ventilation and					
	cardiac output enable					
	rapid delivery of					
	oxygen to tissues and					
	the removal of					
	carbon dioxide from					
	them, including how					
	the heart rate and					
	ventilation rate are					
	controlled and the					
	roles of the					
	cardiovascular control					
	centre and the					
	ventilation centre in					
	the medulla					
	oblongata.					
	CORE PRACTICAL 17:					
	Investigate the effects					
	of exercise on tidal					
	volume, breathing					



Unit	Core knowledge/skill development:	Sequence:	Assessment	Literacy, numeracy, PSHE, FBV, other links	ACP and VAA development:	Home learning and enrichment
	rate, respiratory					
	minute ventilation					
	and oxygen					
	consumption using					
	data from spirometer					
	traces.					
	7.10 i) Know the					
	structure of a muscle					
	fibre. ii) Understand					
	the structural and					
	physiological					
	differences between					
	fast and slow twitch					
	muscle fibres.					
	7.11 i) Understand					
	what is meant by					
	negative feedback					
	and positive feedback					
	control. ii)					
	Understand the					
	principle of negative					
	feedback in					
	maintaining systems					
	within narrow limits.					
	7.12 Understand					
	homeostasis and its					
	importance in					



Unit:	Core knowledge/skill development:	Sequence:	Assessment	Literacy, numeracy, PSHE, FBV, other links	ACP and VAA development:	Home learning and enrichment
	maintaining the body					
	in a state of dynamic					
	equilibrium during					
	exercise, including the					
	role of the					
	hypothalamus and					
	the mechanisms of					
	thermoregulation.					
	7.13 Understand the					
	analysis and					
	interpretation of data					
	relating to possible					
	disadvantages of					
	exercising too much					
	(wear and tear on					
	joints, suppression of					
	the immune system)					
	and exercising too					
	little (increased risk of					
	obesity,					
	cardiovascular					
	disease (CVD) and					
	diabetes), recognising					
	correlation and causal					
	relationships.					
	7.14 Understand how					
	medical technology,					
	including the use of					



Unit:	Core knowledge/skill development:	Sequence:	Assessment	Literacy, numeracy, PSHE, FBV, other links	ACP and VAA development:	Home learning and enrichment
	 keyhole surgery and prostheses, is enabling those with injuries and disabilities to participate in sports. 7.15 Be able to discuss different ethical positions relating to whether the use of performance- enhancing substances by athletes is acceptable. 7.16 Understand how genes can be switched on and off by DNA transcription factors including hormones. 					
Topic 8: Grey Matter	8.1 Know the structure and function of sensory, relay and motor neurones including the role of Schwann cells and myelination.	 Introduction to the Topic Organisation of the Nervous System and Structure of Neurones 		A.1.11 Identify uncertainties in measurements and use simple techniques to determine uncertainty when	Topic 4: Abstraction the ability to move from concrete ideas about the brain/neurones to	TERM 4: Homework 1: Active learn end of topic task assessment for Topic



Unit:	Core knowledge/skill development:	Sequence:	Assessment	Literacy, numeracy, PSHE, FBV, other links	ACP and VAA development:	Home learning and enrichment
				data are	abstract concepts related	7 and prior knowledge
	8.2 i) Understand how	3. Reflex Arcs		combined	to their function.	task for Topic 8.
	the nervous systems					
	of organisms can	4. The Action		A.1.10	Automaticity: use of	Homework 2:
	cause effectors to	Potential		Understand	techniques such as dual	
	respond to a stimulus.			measures of	coding to ensure that	Exam questions on reflex
	ii) Understand how	5. The Action		dispersion,	students are able to	arc and action potential.
	the pupil dilates and	Potential Part 2		including	recall complicated	
	contracts.			standard	concepts such as the way	Homework 3:
		6. Conduction of the		deviation and	we see and the	
	8.3 Understand how a	Impulse		range	interaction of neurones	Exam questions on the
	nerve impulse (action				in the visual cortex.	nervous system and
	potential) is	7. Synapses		A.1.9 Select and		hormonal control.
	conducted along an			use a statistical	Confident: recognise the	
	axon including	8. Nervous System		test	need to take current	Homework 4:
	changes in	and Hormonal			models of understanding	
	membrane	Coordination		A.1.8 Make order	learning/thought and	Exam questions on visual
	permeability to			of magnitude	change them based on	development.
	sodium and	9. Nervous System		calculations	the learning that they are	
	potassium ions and	and Hormonal			presented with during	Homework 5:
	the role of the	Coordination Part 2		A.1.7 Use a	these lessons.	
	myelination in			scatter diagram		Core Practical write-up
	saltatory conduction.	10. Detecting Stimuli		to identify a		on habituation.
				correlation		
	8.4 Know the	11. Plants Detect		between two		Homework 6:
	structure and function	Stimuli		variables		
	of synapses in nerve					Revision for the Topic 8
	impulse transmission,	12. Regions of the		a) Independent		Assessment.
	including the role of	Brain		thinking		
	neurotransmitters,					Homework 7:



Unit:	Core knowledge/skill development:	Sequence:	Assessment	Literacy, numeracy, PSHE, FBV, other links	ACP and VAA development:	Home learning and enrichment
	including	13. Regions of the		 apply 		
	acetylcholine.	Brain Part 2		investigative		Revision for the synoptic
				approaches and		PPE Paper 3.
	8.5 Understand how	14. Critical Period of		methods to		
	the nervous systems	Visual Development		practical work		TERM 5: From this point
	of organisms can					students will be given
	detect stimuli with	15. Visual Perception		b) Use and apply		structured revision in
	reference to rods in			scientific		preparation for their real
	the retina of	16. Learning and		methods and		GCSE examinations,
	mammals, the roles	Memory		practices		
	of rhodopsin, opsin,					
	retinal, sodium ions,	17. Learning		 safely and 		
	cation channels and			correctly use a		
	hyperpolarisation of	18. The Role of		range of practical		
	rod cells in forming	Animal Models		equipment and		
	action potentials in			materials		
	the optic neurones.	19. The Role of				
		Animal Models Part		 follow written 		
	8.6 Understand how	2		instructions		
	phytochrome and					
	IAA bring about	20. Nature or		 make and 		
	responses in plants to	Nurture?		record		
	environmental cues,			observations		
	including their effects	21. Effect of				
	on transcription.	Chemical on		• keep		
		Synapses		appropriate		
	8.7 Understand how			records of		
	co-ordination is	22. Effect of		experimental		
	brought about	Chemicals on		activities		
	through nervous and	Synapses Part 2				



Unit	Core knowledge/skill development:	Sequence:	Assessment:	Literacy, numeracy, PSHE, FBV, other links	ACP and VAA development:	Home learning and enrichment
	hormonal control in			 present 		
	animals.	23. Genome		information and		
		Sequencing Projects		data in a		
	8.8 Know the location			scientific way		
	and functions of the	25. GM Organisms				
	cerebral hemispheres,			• use appropriate		
	hypothalamus,	25. End of Unit		software and		
	cerebellum and	Assessment		tools to process		
	medulla oblongata in			data, carry out		
	the human brain.			research and		
				report findings		
	8.9 Understand how					
	magnetic resonance			c) Research and		
	imaging (MRI),			referencing		
	functional magnetic					
	resonance imaging			• use online and		
	(fMRI), positron			offline research		
	emission tomography			skills including		
	(PET) and computed			websites,		
	tomography (CT)			textbooks and		
	scans are used in			other printed		
	medical diagnosis			scientific sources		
	and the investigation			of information		
	of brain structure and					
	function.			 correctly cite 		
				sources of		
				information		
	8.10 Understand what					
	happens during the			d) Instruments		
	critical period so that			and equipment		



Unit	Core knowledge/skill development:	Sequence:	Assessment:	Literacy, numeracy, PSHE, FBV, other links	ACP and VAA development:	Home learning and enrichment
	mammals can					
	develop their visual			• use a wide		
	capacities to the full.			range of		
				experimental and		
	8.11 Understand the			practical		
	role animal models			instruments,		
	have played in the			equipment and		
	research into human			techniques		
	brain development			appropriate to		
	and function,			the knowledge		
	including Hubel and			and		
	Wiesel's experiments			understanding		
	with monkeys and			included in the		
	kittens.			specification.		
	8.12 Be able to					
	discuss moral and					
	ethical issues relating					
	to the use of animals					
	in medical research					
	from two ethical					
	standpoints.					
	8.13 Understand how					
	animals, including					
	humans, can learn by					
	habituation.					
	CORE PRACTICAL 18:					
	Investigate					



Unit:	Core knowledge/skill development:	Sequence:	Assessment	Literacy, numeracy, PSHE, FBV, other links	ACP and VAA development:	Home learning and enrichment
	habituation to a					
	stimulus.					
	8.14 Understand how					
	imbalances in certain,					
	naturally occurring					
	brain chemicals can					
	contribute to ill					
	health, including					
	dopamine in					
	Parkinson's disease					
	and serotonin in					
	depression, and to					
	the development of					
	new drugs.					
	8.15 Understand the					
	effects of drugs on					
	synaptic					
	transmissions,					
	including the use of					
	L-Dopa in the					
	treatment of					
	Parkinson's disease					
	and the action of					
	MDMA in Ecstasy.					
	8.16 Understand how					
	the outcomes of					
	genome sequencing					



Unit:	Core knowledge/skill development:	Sequence:	Assessment	Literacy, numeracy, PSHE, FBV, other links	ACP and VAA development:	Home learning and enrichment
	projects are being					
	used in the					
	development of					
	personalised					
	medicine and the					
	social, moral and					
	ethical issues this					
	raises.					
	8.17 Know how drugs					
	can be produced					
	using genetically					
	modified organisms					
	(plants, animals and					
	microorganisms).					
	8.18 Understand the					
	risks and benefits					
	associated with the					
	use of genetically					
	modified organisms.					
	8.19 Understand the					
	methods used to					
	investigate the					
	contributions of					
	nature and nurture to					
	brain development,					
	including evidence					
	from the abilities of					



Unit:	Core knowledge/skill development:	Sequence:	Assessment	Literacy, numeracy, PSHE, FBV, other links	ACP and VAA development:	Home learning and enrichment
	new-born babies, animal experiments, studies of individuals with damaged brain areas, twin studies and cross-cultural studies.					