Year 9	
Autumn 1 (September – October) to Autumn 2 (October – December)	Inheritance and evolution This topic encourages students to see how biology is related to them through the study of variation in their class and humans' part to play in preserving biodiversity. It builds on middle school learning about basic cell structure, specifically the role of DNA. Later in the topic we study evolution to introduce a topic that will be developed in key stage 4.
Spring 1 (January – February) to Spring 2 (February – March)	Animal anatomy This topic builds on key stage 2 study of the heart and blood vessels and key stage 3 study of digestion and gas exchange. It includes many key biological terms and structures within the human body and provides a grounding for the study of human biology.
Summer 1 (April – June) to Summer 2 (June – July)	Plant anatomy This topic builds on key stage 3 study of photosynthesis. It introduces the idea of organs in plants and provides the basis for the further study of plant biology. It is placed after animal anatomy to allow comparisons to be made and students to use their prior learning to support this more unfamiliar context.