Key Stage 4 (10)		
Course title: Combined science: Trilogy or Separate science: Biology		
Exam board: AQA		
Specification code: 8464 or 8461		
Autumn 1 (September	Infection and immunity This topic follows on from anatomy topic in year 9. It is a concrete, accessible topic for all for start GCSE. Contains some triple content so introduces these students to their option.	
- October) to Autumn 2 (October - December)	Cell division and transport Builds on key stage 3 cells knowledge. It covers fundamental principles of biology required before organisation topic.	
	Organisation in animals -Circulatory and digestive system Macroscale topic building on microscale in previous topic. Animal organisation is before plant organisation as more accessible for students.	
Spring 1 (January – February) to Spring 2 (February –	Organisation in plants Builds on organisation in animals and forms link to photosynthesis topic. Bioenergetics – photosynthesis and respiration Builds on organisation topics and introduces concepts of energy transfer in biology, building on chemistry understanding.	
Summer 1 (April – June) Summer 2 (June – July)	Ecology Placed in summer term to enable students to take part in real field work including quadrats and transects. Builds on respiration (food chains and energy transfer) and photosynthesis (impact on plant distribution).	

Key Stage 4 (11)				
Course title: Combined science: Trilogy or Separate science: Biology Exam board: AQA Specification code: 8464 or 8461				
			Autumn 1 (September – October) to	Homeostasis This topic contains information about contraception, and so comes at a good time in the students' development. It contains complex negative feedback loops in the context of hormones and so the level of challenge in this topic is high.
			Autumn 2 (October – December)	Inheritance and variation Builds on inheritance topic in KS3 as part of spiral curriculum.
	Separate biology contains protein synthesis – this requires a lot of understanding across the breadth of GCSE biology.			
Spring 1 (January – February)	Evolution As with previous topic this builds on KS3 inheritance and contains overlapping content with Ecology and so provides many broad opportunities for retrieval.			
to Spring 2 (February – March)	Key ideas This topic studies the complex links within biology and enables students to connect their knowledge from different topics together. Placing this at the end of year 11 supports AO2 revision.			
Summer 1 (April – June) Summer 2 (June – July)	Revision for GCSEs			