

Introduction

The specification for Biology in a “normal” year comprises of 3 units which together count towards the overall award of the Biology GCSE.

Unit 1 Cells, Organs systems and Ecosystems – this is a written examination of 1 hour 45 minutes

Unit 2 Variation, Homeostasis and Micro-organisms - this is a written examination of 1 hour 45

Unit 3 Practical assessment – Practical assessment that is carried out in centres, but will be externally marked by WJEC

In June 2020 WJEC announced changes to the course due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Removing Unit 1 and the NEA from the qualification and redistributing the weighting to Unit 2. This has been reflected in the content that has been taught to year 11 and is reflected in the assessment points shown below.

Sources of evidence for Centre Determined Grades in Biology

Assessment point 1 = Past paper exam questions completed in lesson under **high control** on DNA and inheritance. Completed the week beginning the 5th of October 2020.

Assessment point 2 = Past paper question on Classification completed in lesson under **high control** using WJEC past papers and mark schemes. Completed the week beginning the 30th of November 2020.

Assessment point 3 = Online test assessing Variation, Evolution, Response and regulation. This was timed under **low/medium control**. Completed the week beginning the 8th of February 2021.

Assessment point 4 = Past paper questions on Variation, Evolution, Response and regulation and disease completed in lessons under **high control** conditions in the week beginning the 22nd of March 2021.

Assessment point 5 = Past paper questions on Classification, Cell division and DNA using WJEC materials. Completed in lessons under **high control** conditions on the 27th of April 2021.

Assessment point 6 = Past paper assessment materials provided by WJEC to assess Variation and Evolution, Response and regulation, Role of kidney, and Disease. Completed in lessons under **high control** conditions on the 25th of May 2021.

Class work = A range of knowledge and skills are demonstrated by students in lessons Biology through their performance in low stakes summative assessment which includes recall tests, quizzes, verbal answers to question, small tasks carried out that are not necessarily graded or levelled, longer independent learning tasks and other low stakes tests such as use of online resources. Students scientific skills in graph reading and creation and statistical techniques have also been closely monitored by teachers this year.

Practical Assessment = There has been no practical assessment completed by any student to be considered in a portfolio of evidence due to its cancellation from the course in June 2020.