### Biology A Level (7402)

### Awarding Body: AQA

The course follows AQA Biology specification, which is divided into 8 modules. There will also be some **mandatory** field work in Year 13.

Costs: In previous years there has been a field trip of a week’s duration but this is currently under review. Since field work is a mandatory part of the course we would advise you to expect some additional costs for this. As a guide, we ensure that any new arrangements for field work do not exceed the cost of the field trip at present, which is priced at £400.00. Students are expected to subscribe to Biological Sciences Review (approximately £12.00 per year).

We also encourage students to attend revision tutorials, use the weekly Biology Clinic and make use of various enrichment options including Medical Society, Journal Club and the Royal Society of Biology Olympiad. Students may consider vocational courses such as “Medilink” and “Vetsix”.

The specific features of this course meet the needs and interests of typical A Level students at K.E.S., those interested in careers in Genectics, Medicine/Veterinary Science and the Environment.

**Subject Content**

**Core Content**

Module 1 Biological molecules

Module 2 Cells

Module 3 Organisms exchange substances with their environment

Module 4 Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms

Module 5 Energy transfers in and between organisms

Module 6 Organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments.

Module 7 Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems

Module 8 The control of gene expression

**Assessments**

**Paper 1**

**What’s assessed.**

Any content from modules 1 – 4 including relevant practical skills.

Assessed: Written exam 2 hours

 91 marks

 35% of A-Level

Questions: 76 marks: a mixture of short and long answer questions.

 15 marks: extended response questions.

**Paper 2**

**What’s assessed.**

Any content from modules 5 - 8, including relevant practical skills.

Assessed: Written exam 2 hours

 91 marks

 35% of A-Level

Questions: 76 marks: a mixture of short and long answer questions

 15 marks: comprehension question

**Paper 3**

**What’s assessed.**

Any content from modules 1 – 8, including relevant practical skills.

Assessed: Written exam: 2 hours

 78 marks

 30% of A-Level

Questions: 38 marks: structured questions, including practical techniques

 15 marks: critical analysis of given experimental data

 25 marks: one essay from a choice of two titles