KS5 Curriculum Overview: A Level Environmental Science

AQA A Level Environmental Science Living in an age with increasing numbers of environmental challenges we need to find real life solutions to ensure the sustainability of our planet. This makes studying environmental science a key part of this process. The course will make you more aware of what is happening to the Earth's environment and the issues we are currently facing. Using real life case studies, you will investigate and conduct experiments researching the best methods to obtain data. Applying biological, chemical, and physical principles to environmental issues and to provide solutions to environmental problems.

This qualification is linear. Linear means that students will sit all their exams and submit all their non-exam assessment at the end of the course. The exam assessment is two external exams at the end of the two years, students are expected to draw on knowledge and understanding of the entire course of study to show a deeper understanding of the interconnections between topics. Paper 1 and 2 both have a 3-hour exam with 120 marks and 50% of the Alevel. Both papers have a mixture of question types such as multiple choice, short answer, and extended writing questions. The non- exam assessment is based on **w**orking scientifically tasks that give students the opportunities for skills development and independent thinking at the end of each subject content section**.** Non-exam-based assessment has a minimum requirement of 4 days of fieldwork for A-level or 2 days of fieldwork plus 12 laboratory-based.

	Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Year 12	**Curriculum and Skills:** **Skills:** Students will develop interpersonal and thinking skills, team working skills, experience of research, application of numeracy, extended writing and meeting deadlines. **Curriculum** The living environment and physical environment and Research methods	**Curriculum and Skills:** **Skills:** Students will develop practical, interpersonal and thinking skills, team working skills, experience of research, application of numeracy and information technologies, extended writing and meeting deadlines. **Curriculum** The living environment and physical environment and Research methods	**Curriculum and Skills:** **Skills:** Students will develop practical, interpersonal and thinking skills, communication skills, team working skills, experience of research, customer awareness, extended writing and meeting deadlines. **Curriculum** Energy Resources and Sustainability
Year 13	**Curriculum and Skills:** Skills: interpersonal and thinking skills, team working skills, experience of research, application of numeracy, extended writing and meeting deadlines, self-management, teamworking, customer awareness, problem solving, communication and literacy, application of numeracy and information technologies **Curriculum** Pollution and Biological resources and Research methods	**Curriculum and Skills:** Skills: interpersonal and thinking skills, team working skills, experience of research, application of numeracy, extended writing and meeting deadlines, self-management, teamworking, customer awareness, problem solving, communication and literacy, application of numeracy and information technologies **Curriculum** Biological resources and Sustainability and Research methods	**Curriculum and Skills:** Skills: interpersonal and thinking skills, team working skills, experience of research, application of numeracy, extended writing and meeting deadlines, self-management, teamworking, customer awareness, problem solving, communication and literacy, application of numeracy and information technologies **Curriculum:** Sustainability and Research methods
Assessment:	Students will be expected to draw on knowledge and understanding of the entire course of study to show a deeper understanding of the interconnections between topics in Paper 1 and 2. Paper 1 covers the following topics: The physical environment, energy resources, pollution, research methods. Paper 2 covers the following topics: The living environment, biological resources, Sustainability and Research methods. Paper 1 and 2 have a mixture of question types such as multiple choice, short answer and extended writing questions. The non- exam assessment is based on **w**orking scientifically tasks that give students the opportunities for skills development and independent thinking at the end of each subject content section. These include: skills related to the methodologies and sampling techniques that students must gain through first-hand experience and skills related to research methods that can be gained through class-based and/or practical activities.		