Applied Science AAQ Cambridge Advanced National

Subject Leader: Mr Adams

Syllabus: OCR AAQ Cambridge Advanced National

Course Specification: Extended Certificate in Applied Science H151

Course Requirements

5 GCSEs grades 9-4 including English at grade 5 and Maths at grade 5. Minimum grade 55 or higher in GCSE Sciences or Merit or higher in BTEC Science Level 2.

Course Information

Year 1

The course requires students to cover 360 Guided Learning Hours through studying a variety of units. The work is arranged around workplace scenarios to provide the content for the science teaching. There are 2 mandatory units.

Unit F180. Fundamentals of Science (externally assessed)

Unit F182. Investigating Science (internally assessed).

Year 2

Students complete an additional mandatory unit which is externally assessed called F181 Science in Society , as well as two more units from F183 Analytical Techniques in Chemistry, F184 – Environmental Studies, F185 Forensic Biology and F186 – Medical Physics. The actual units to be studied will be decided on at the end of year 12.

Assessment

There is a mixture of internally and externally assessed units. Of the two externally assessed units, Unit F180 is assessed through a single 90 minute, 70 mark written exam covering the range of Biology, Chemistry and Physics in the course. This exam is sat at the end of year 12. Unit F181 is assessed through a single 75 minute, 50 mark exam that is split into 2 sections. Section A is based on pre-released material that students will look at in class, whereas Section B will be based on the rest of the topic. This exam is sat in January of year 13.

The internally assessed (NEA) units comprise of practical tasks that have deadlines set throughout the course. The assignments get assessed at pass, merit or distinction level and these lead to an overall UMS for each of the 3 internally assessed units. The NEA work is externally moderated by the exam board.

Each element of assessment is converted into a UMS grade, and the total UMS then leads to the awarding of a grade at Pass, Merit, Distinction or Distinction *.

Teaching and Learning Styles

Science is investigative by its nature. There will be opportunities for students to develop their practical skills as well as developing their analytical and thinking skills. Students will be expected to communicate well both orally and in their written work, producing creative presentations of their understanding of the science involved.

Independent Study

Independent work is encouraged and promoted. There is an expectation that students read up on content before the lesson and then use time after the lesson to complete work.

Future Pathways

The course will allow for progression to undergraduate study, enabling students to enter a range of academic and vocational careers in the biological, chemical or physical sciences. For learners wishing to follow an apprenticeship route or those seeking direct entry into a wide range of science careers, this course provides a strong background and progression pathway. It also is designed for learners who are interested in learning about science alongside other fields of study, with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses, not necessarily in applied science.



