Subject Outline:
Biology is the study of the living organisms in the world around us and how they work together to create the biosphere. Topics covered are: cell biology and energetics, body systems, ecology, evolution and diversity, reproduction and development, genetics and molecular biology, and biotechnology.

Contributes to OP: Yes

Assessment Outline:
Students will be assessed in three different categories:
- Extended response – This may include oral, seminar or multimedia presentations, written responses to stimulus material, debates
- Written task – This may include written exams, practical reports, and articles for scientific publications, exercises using graphs, tables, diagrams and data.
- Extended Experimental Investigation - This type of instrument will involve students answering an open-ended practical research question, which involves planning, executing, evaluating and presenting a final report.

Career Pathways:
Students intending to obtain jobs that involve animals, plants, changing the natural environment, or public health should take Biological Science.

Potential Activities:
Learning through each of the general objectives as stated below is developed through learning experiences and activities that range from simple to complex in their challenge to students. Students will be required to acquire, construct and communicate knowledge and understanding of ideas, concepts and theories of Biology as well as critically and creatively question, observe, construct ideas, make choices, analyse data, make decisions and solve problems to demonstrate the processes involved in biological investigation. They will also be required to gather information, predict outcomes, and make and communicate informed decisions about the effects of human intervention on biological systems.

Costs:
- Approx. $40 for field trips in year 11.
- $25 each for Student Workbooks 1 and 2 (at the start of Year 11).

Student Requirements:
Students must have achieved a B or better in Year 10 Biology as well as B in English and a pass in core maths. The course involves considerable reading and some research in the students’ own time as much of the class time is occupied with laboratory work and discussion. It is expected that students will average 2.5 - 3 hours per week of their own time on homework, research and study. Field trips are a part of this course and students are required to go on these and spend ten hours in the field.

Vocational Relevance:
Students will be able to engage in many science fields with the skills and knowledge they gain through studying Biology that will allow them to be scientifically literate.