



Transitioning to Medical science

Making use of this document

Welcome, and congratulations on choosing Applied Diploma in Medical Science. It is a gateway course into the medical professions. Medical scientists are at the forefront of healthcare services, they are vital in the diagnosis of disease, determining the effectiveness of treatments and searching for new cures. We will develop your analytical skills and critical thinking, both of which are desirable not only in medical science but in the much wider world of work and further education. We hope you enjoy studying the course.

The majority of this document is guidance and transition activities. The first two pages provide some information specific to Lawnswood that we think would be of benefit.

We recommend you read the full thing first. Then have a go at the activities (which certainly doesn't have to be all in one go) just to refresh the GCSE biology and maths skills that you will be needing to use again.

After that, it is a good idea to start looking at the recommended additional activities outlined below. The more familiar you are with these now, the easier it will be to make use of them whilst studying.

The contact details of the Medical science team are below. We welcome any questions, requests for help with the activities (or the answers when you are ready) or feedback.

The Medical science Team

If you are studying at Lawnswood you will be taught by two teachers, though we sometimes switch up the teaching pairing between Y12 and Y13.

Feel free to contact any of us with any of your questions.

The team is –

Mr Bamford – iain.bamford@elawnswood.co.uk

Dr Stephenson – jason.stephenson@elawnswood.co.uk

Our recommendations beyond the transition guide

Textbook

There will be a course textbook but it is not currently published. As soon as it is, we will give you details of how to purchase it.

Publications

1. The Biologist and Science Focus – Great publications with articles covering a large range of topics. To access, visit our log in page: <https://exacteditions.com/login> and select the “library card” option in the top right-hand corner. Then enter your six-digit code into the “card number” bar and log in. The six-digit code for Lawnswood School is **608089**.

2. The Big Picture is a publication from the Wellcome Trust. You can go to <https://www.stem.org.uk/big-picture/resource-collection> and look through the resources that will help you recap your GCSE knowledge and introduce some of the Applied diploma content. I would recommend looking at the topics on cells, proteins, lipids and statistics as these will help you in the first units we will be studying.
3. New Scientist and Science Focus – Publications about current scientific topics and research. You can access these for free if you have a Leeds Library Card (details of how to access here <https://www.leeds.gov.uk/leisure/libraries/online-library>).

Reading around the subject

There are many books that you could read to help you prepare for Medical science but the following is a suggestion to get you started.

The Body: A guide for occupants – Bill Bryson - ISBN-10: 0385539304

Videos

1. **You Tube** – some good channels to explore; iBiology (leading scientists uploading new discoveries and also helping to review topics), Crash Course Biology (he talks very quickly!) and Khan Academy.

Podcasts

If you prefer to just listen to something involving medical science, I would recommend “Infinite monkey cage”. This is a general science podcast but you will find some episodes on medical breakthroughs and fascinating technologies used to probe and understand the mind and body.