The new Biology level 3 course is based on senior secondary Australian Curriculum: Biology. All elements of Australian Curriculum: Biology Unit 2 and a large proportion of Australian Curriculum: Biology Units 3 and 4 are contained in this course.

WHAT IS SIMILAR?

Learners will continue to:
- study six underlying biology concepts and related processes in four levels of organisation
- relate science understandings to science as a human endeavour, with particular reference to the application and impact of biological science in society
- develop science inquiry skills, planning and organisational skills and processing and communication skills across all sections of study
- spend a minimum of 45 hours on practical activities.

WHAT IS DIFFERENT?

Course content has changed to incorporate a larger proportion of Australian Curriculum: Biology Unit 4 with the addition of content on infectious diseases, and less of Australian Curriculum: Biology Unit 1 with the removal of content about describing biodiversity and ecosystem dynamics.

Details of Science Understanding have changed as follows:
- elaborations have been added under the headings of Experimental design (Criterion 2) and Application and impact of biological science in society (Criterion 4)
- the last of six underlying concepts and related processes has been changed from evolutionary change to managing challenges
- the fourth level of biological organisation has been changed from interactions of organisms with their environments to continuity of organisms and survival of changes
- The chemical basis of life (Criterion 5)
  - elaborations on content have been added
- Cells (Criterion 6)
  - elaborations on content have been added
- Organisms (Criterion 7)
  - elaborations on content have been added
  - adaptations has been moved into this section and placed under the new underlying concept of managing challenges
  - DNA: the code of life has been moved out of this section
- Continuity of organisms and survival of changes (Criterion 8)
  - DNA: the code of life has been moved into this section with elaborations on its content
  - natural selection has been moved into DNA: the code of life
  - adaptations has been moved out of this section
  - new information has been included on organisms that cause disease and lines of defence inside the body.

HOW DOES THE COURSE CATER FOR ALL STUDENTS?

- The study of Life Sciences level 2 is a useful pathway to Biology.
- It is recommended that learners study Biology in Year 12.

WHAT SUPPORT IS PROVIDED?

- A course supplement designed to support teachers new to or returning to teaching this course.
- Professional Learning to support course implementation.