Science KS3 Assessment Framework

	Beginning Grade 1	Working Towards Grade 2-3	Expected Grade 4-5	Exceeding Grade 6-7	Excelling Grade 8-9
Genes	I can: Name an environmental change. Give a possible reason for adaptation or extinction. Explain how organisms are adapted to their environments. Explain how variation helps a particular species in a changing environment. Describe how organisms are adapted to their environments.	I can: Explain whether characteristics are inherited, environmental, or both. State that there are two types of variation. State the two types of graphs that can be drawn when representing the two types of variation. Record results in a table and plot a histogram. Explain how organisms are adapted to seasonal changes.	I can: State what is meant by the term variation. State that variation is caused by the environment or inheritance. Record observations of variations between different species of gull. Describe how variation in species occurs. Explain whether characteristics are inherited, environmental, or both. Record results in a table and plot a graph on axes provided. Describe the difference between continuous and discontinuous variation. Plot bar charts or line graphs to show discontinuous or continuous variation data. Explain how competition or long-term environmental change can lead to evolutionary adaptation or extinction and the role variation plays in a species success.	I can: Explain how variation gives rise to different species. Record and categorise observations of variations between different species of gull to suggest species boundaries. Use knowledge of continuous and discontinuous variation to explain whether characteristics are inherited, environmental, or both. Explain the causes of continuous and discontinuous variation. Predict implications of a change in the environment on a population.	I can: Critique a claim that a particular characteristic is inherited or environmental. Record results in a table, and identify and plot an appropriate graph to show variation within a species.