

A LEVEL PHYSICS



WHY CHOOSE A LEVEL PHYSICS?



Physicists are fascinated by the world around them and love to solve problems in a variety of contexts: from the subatomic realm of **tiny particles** to the **vast celestial bodies** of the cosmos (and everything in between!).

Physicists need to think logically but also need to be creative in their approach to solving problems. Every topic you study will have a huge range of applications, from architecture to astronomy, and from musical instruments to medical physics.

HOW DOES A LEVEL PHYSICS DIFFER FROM GCSE?

Unlike GCSE Physics there are very few equations that you'll need to memorise – Physics is all about finding out **how** things work! By the end of Year 2 you'll be adept at solving problems – a highly sought-after skill by the most competitive Universities and employers.

We place a strong emphasis on allowing students to carry out practical activities, not just to develop their practical skills, but to provide them with a full range of learning experiences.



With access to experienced teachers, excellent resources and dedicated Physics workshops, year after year our Physics students achieve results that exceed the nationwide average.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

Our sibling sciences, Chemistry and Biology focus on specific areas of science, namely biological processes, and how atoms/molecules interact with one another. Physics deals with quite literally *everything* else!



OUR APPROACH TO TEACHING AND LEARNING

Building on our reputation for excellent resources:

- We use high-quality learning materials including our unique textbooks (which we produce ourselves) and which have been rated as excellent by our students and by Ofsted inspectors.
- We have a flexible teaching approach and a range of online learning and assessment materials. We set high standards for our students with respect to completing homework and meeting deadlines.
- We have exceptional facilities and class sets of the latest physics equipment. This allows students to complete practical work that would otherwise have to be demonstrated by a teacher.
- Students are able to opt in to our Physics and Engineering Academy programme.
- We are endorsed by Cambridge University's HE+ lecture programme and offer additional lectures to students on higher level topics such as Special Relativity, Acoustics, The Apollo Space Missions and Quantum Mechanics.







A LEVEL ASSESSMENT

Students will be assessed by three written examinations in the summer of year 2.

Component 1 – Newtonian Physics	(2 hours	15 minutes)	31.25% of qualification
Component 2 – Electricity and the U	niverse	(2 hours)	31.25% of qualification

Component 3 – Light, Nuclei & Options (2 hours 15 minutes) 37.5% of qualification

In common with all other science A Levels, practical skills will be assessed by your teacher over the two years of the course. A Practical Endorsement certificate will be awarded separately alongside the A Level certificate. Performance in the practical skills will not affect the A Level grade awarded.



Scan this QR code to see a video of Becky, one of our former students, discuss her experience of studying A Level Physics at WSFC. She achieved an A* in physics and went on to study Physics at Durham.



ENTRY AND SKILL REQUIREMENTS

What are the GCSE entry requirements for A Level Physics?

- Minimum of Grade 66 in Combined Science or Grade 6 in Physics and another science.
- Minimum Grade 4 in English and 6 in Maths.

Please bear in mind, there is high maths content in A Level Physics. It is therefore essential that you study one of the following supportive courses alongside A Level Physics in your first year: A Level Mathematics; A Level Further Mathematics; Level 3 Cambridge Technical in Engineering.

What if I don't meet the entry requirements for A Level Physics?

We offer an Engineering course that overlaps significantly with the A Level Physics syllabus. The Engineering course is assessed in a modular format in both year 1 and 2 with a combination of examined and coursework units.



CONTACT US:

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Scan this QR code to see a video of two of our Physics teachers Edd and Chris describing the Physics A Level course and what you will study.