

Subject: Key Stage 5 Sciences

A Level Physics:

The exam board is AQA.

This is a two year course made up of nine units; five units in Year 12 and four units in Year 13.

Year 12	Year 13
<ul style="list-style-type: none">1 Measurements and their errors2 Particles and radiation3 Waves4 Mechanics and materials5 Electricity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">6. Further mechanics and thermal physics7. Fields and their consequences8. Nuclear physics <p>Plus one of these options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">9 Astrophysics10 Medical physics11 Engineering physics12 Turning points in physics13 Electronics

There is also a practical component to the course with the compulsory completion of 12 required practical activities, along with a whole range of other practical activities to help students develop an understanding of scientific processes. These practical activities will not form part of the overall A Level grade but the practical activities have to be passed. At least 15% of the overall assessment of A-level Physics will assess knowledge, skills and understanding in relation to this practical work.

COURSE INFORMATION

All external exams are at the Year 13 and comprise of the following:

Paper 1	+	Paper 2	+	Paper 3
What's assessed Sections 1 – 5 and 6.1 (Periodic motion)		What's assessed Sections 6.2 (Thermal Physics), 7 and 8 Assumed knowledge from sections 1 to 6.1		What's assessed Section A: Compulsory section: Practical skills and data analysis Section B: Students enter for one of sections 9, 10, 11, 12 or 13
Assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none">• written exam: 2 hours• 85 marks• 34% of A-level		Assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none">• written exam: 2 hours• 85 marks• 34% of A-level		Assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none">• written exam: 2 hours• 80 marks• 32% of A-level
Questions 60 marks of short and long answer questions and 25 multiple choice questions on content.		Questions 60 marks of short and long answer questions and 25 multiple choice questions on content.		Questions 45 marks of short and long answer questions on practical experiments and data analysis. 35 marks of short and long answer questions on optional topic.

Overall, 40% of the overall assessment of AS Physics will contain mathematical skills equivalent to Level 2 or above.

External AS Physics exams are taken at the end of Year 12. This allows a thorough assessment of progress so far and means that if students do drop the subject at the end of Year 12 they will have some points to go towards their UCAS points total when applying for Higher Education courses.