THE WORTHGATE SCHOOL
CANTERBURY

COURSE DESCRIPTOR

A LEVEL PHYSICS

SUBJECT OVERVIEW

A-Level Physics is a two-year course that gives you a thorough grounding in Physics and is much sought after by top UK universities. An A-Level in Physics can allow you to study a variety of subjects such as Medicine, Engineering, Computing, Medical Physics, Meteorology, Geophysics and Astrophysics. You will often spend time conducting experiments and research in a laboratory environment, so you must be prepared to work with a range of scientific equipment. Students of A-level Physics generally develop the ability to recognise, recall and show understanding of specific Physics facts, terminology, principles, concepts and practical ability. Achieving an A-level in Physics is very can offer you access to a huge range of options for both further education and careers.

PRIOR LEARNING REQUIRED

An interest and curiosity in the fascinating realm of Physics is essential for a successful journey through this subject. GCSE or equivalent knowledge of Physics or Combined Science is recommended. A good understanding of Mathematics at GCSE or equivalent is also beneficial to your learning.
Language: IELTS 5.5 or equivalent

EXAM BOARD

OCR

COURSE CONTENT

Year 1	Year 2
Module 1: Development of Practical Skills in Physics. Module 2: Foundations of Physics.	Module 5: Newtonian World and Astrophysics. Module 6: Particles and Medical Physics.

Module 3: Forces and Motion. Module 4: Electrons, Waves and Photons.	

ASSESSMENT

During the course, topic assessments take place once every half term and homework is set on a weekly basis. An End of Year 1 exam must be passed at a Grade C or higher for entry to the second year of the course.

Your A level grade is determined by your performance in three written papers at the end of the course, which include questions relating to both theory and practical skills. The first two papers each cover roughly half of the course content and account for 74% of the final mark in total. Paper 3 includes synoptic questions which might relate to any part of the specification, and accounts for 26% of the final mark.

Practical skills are assessed by your teacher throughout the A Level course, with a record kept of the skills you have demonstrated. If you demonstrate all the required skills, a Practical Endorsement will be awarded as part of the A Level qualification at the end of the course. This does not contribute to your final grade, but it is needed for many Science-related university courses and careers.

Paper	Length of paper	Weighting
Paper 1 Modelling Physics (01)	100 marks 2 hour 15 minutes written paper	37% of A level
Paper 2 Exploring Physics (2)	100 marks 2 hour 15 minutes written paper	37% of A level
Paper 3 Unified Physics (3)	70 marks 1 hour 30 minutes written paper	26% of A level

Practical Endorsement in Physics (04)	(non-exam assessment)	Reported separately

TEXTBOOKS/REVISION GUIDES

Title	ISBN	Author
A Level Physics for OCR A: Year 1 and AS	978-0-19-835217-4	Graham Bone, Gurinder Chadha, and Nigel Saunders
A Level Physics for OCR A: Year 2	978-0-19-835766-7	Graham Bone, Gurinder Chadha, and Nigel Saunders
A-Level Physics: OCR A Year 1 & 2 Complete Revision	978-1789080391	CGP Books

HIGHER EDUCATION PATHWAYS

Physics opens a large range of career options as, together with other Sciences, it is important for careers in technology, research, engineering, Medicine, and many other occupations.
Previous students have studied:
Loughborough University – Computer Science
University College London – Mechanical Engineering
Interior Architecture – Leeds Beckett University

COMPLEMENTARY SUBJECTS OF STUDY

Maths, Chemistry, Biology, Computer Science

CURRICULUM DIRECTOR

Ms. Emma Lock


PART OF
CATS
GLOBAL SCHOOLS