

AQA PHYSICS

Assessment Method

100% examination

Why Should I Follow This Course?

A-level physics is a requirement for many future courses and careers. Outside science and engineering, qualifications in physics are widely respected, for example in the financial services industry where analytical skills are in demand.

The course expands on GCSE physics by explaining why phenomena happen. It also goes into new areas, like quantum mechanics (the science of the very small) and special relativity (the science of the very fast). Here one sees that physics is not always the same as witnessed in the everyday world!

What Will I Learn?

In year 12 students learn about particle physics, electricity, classical mechanics, properties of solids and waves. In year 13 students learn about circular motion, fields, heat, radioactivity, and special relativity.

The course therefore covers a wide range of physics in some depth. Students are especially interested to learn about particles (there are many more particles than just protons, neutrons and electrons) and to see how this contemporary area of physics is developing. Students are also fascinated to learn about Einstein's revolutionary work.

What Teaching and Learning Methods Will Be Used?

A range of teaching techniques are used, including demonstrations or experiments where possible. Students develop their problem solving skills to answer questions. There is a focus at the start of the course on developing students' skills at algebra.

Students will also develop their practical skills, especially in areas such as electricity, and will learn key skills to take them into university science and engineering, for example analysing the accuracy of their results.

Where Will This Qualification Take Me?

A-level physics is a requirement for many university courses, especially those which are scientific and engineering based.

It is also widely accepted for entry to unrelated courses.

A-level physics is equally recognised for entry to level 3 apprenticeships.