

Workington Academy - Sixth Form

Subject: Physics

Why you should study Physics

Physics naturally goes well with other science subjects, although it could also complement arts based A levels. The majority of candidates also study mathematics – a choice that would certainly aid understanding in physics, but a few do not and success is still possible. There is no doubt that physics A level is highly regarded by universities.

Examination Board and Specification Number: AQA 2450

Course Content

- 1 Measurements and their errors
- 2 Particles and radiation
- 3 Waves
- 4 Mechanics and materials
- 5 Electricity
- 6 Further mechanics and thermal physics
- 7 Fields and their consequences
- 8 Nuclear physics

Options

- 9 Astrophysics
- 10 Medical physics
- 11 Engineering physics
- 12 Turning points in physics
- 13 Electronics

Assessment:

A-level

What is assessed

Sections 1 to 5 and 6.1 (Periodic motion)

Assessed

Written exam 2 hours

85 marks

34% of A Level

Questions

60 marks of short and long answer questions and 25 multiple choice questions on content

PLUS

What is assessed

Sections 6.2 (Thermal Physics), 7 and 8

Assumed knowledge from sections 1 to 6.1



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Assessed

Written exam 2 hours

85 marks

34% of A level

Questions

60 marks of short and long answer questions and 25 multiple choice questions on content

PLUS

What is 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

Written exam 2 hours

80 marks

32% of A Level

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.

Skills Developed, Progression and Possible Future Careers

Many students choose to combine Physics with one of the other sciences such as Chemistry or Biology, while others who are thinking of becoming an engineer or architect combine Physics with Design-Technology or Art.

Physics is not only interesting, it is also highly marketable. With an A level in Physics you have proved that you possess a wide range of Key Skills, exactly what employers and universities are looking for today. Indeed there can be few subjects at A level that cover such a wide range of transferable skills – from the use of IT in data-logging experiments; to the numerical skills that are the bedrock of the subject, essential in problem-solving and in practical work; to skill in written expression needed to produce clear, concise explanations.