PHYSICS

"Not only is the universe stranger than we think, it is stranger than we can think ."

Werner Heisenberg

Why study A Level physics?

Physics is fundamental to everything. It opens opportunities in so many areas such as science, engineering, research - indeed, any career that requires good numeracy skills.

What will you study?

Year 12

Much of year 12 is an extension of what you have done in Years 10 and 11. Recognisable topics like electricity, waves and mechanics extend what has been done earlier. You will be introduced to the wonderous world of fundamental particles and the Standard Model.

Year 13

In Year 13 new topics are introduced: simple harmonic motion; gravitational, electrical and magnetic fields. An extra topic, Astronomy, is taught at the end of the course

How will you study?

The content is taught through teaching, practical and exam practice. You will never write an essay!

How will you be assessed?

At the end of the two years, you will sit three exam papers covering Year 12 topics, Year 13 topics and a practical skills paper. Your practical skills are also assessed separately and, if successful, you will receive a practical endorsement.

What do you need to study the course?

Entry requirements: You will need a 6 in GCSE physics or 6/6 in GCSE trilogy science. You should have at least a grade 6 in GCSE mathematics.

Which subjects combine well with physics?

Being numerate is vital in physics and so linking it with mathematics A level is very helpful. Other sciences also help, but as physicists communicating with other scientists throughout the world, Modern Foreign Languages like Spanish can also be useful.

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