



Subject: Physics

Lead Teacher: Dr M S Catalan

Year: 11

## Curriculum organisation

Students are taught in mixed groups of **30** for **two** hours per week. They are not grouped by ability.

Overview of Topics & Key Information					How will your child be learning?
Term	Unit(s) of Work	Key Enquiry Questions	Key Content/ Terminology	Skills developed	
Autumn Term	Static Electricity and Electric Fields           Circuits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is an insulator/conductor?</li> <li>• What is static electricity?</li> <li>• What is the charge of an electron/proton? What is the unit of charge?</li> <li>• How are conductors and insulators charged?</li> <li>• What is charging by induction?</li> <li>• What are the rules of attraction and repulsion between charged objects?</li> <li>• What is sparking?</li> <li>• What are the applications and dangers of static electricity?</li> <li>• What is an electric field?</li> <li>• What is the shape and properties of the electric field around charged objects?</li> <li>• How does a field relate to the concept of force?</li> <li>• What are the electrical circuit symbols?</li> <li>• How does one draw / interpret a circuit diagram?</li> <li>• What is current? How is it measured? (<math>Q=It</math>)</li> <li>• What is potential difference (p.d.)? What is its unit?</li> <li>• How does one apply the equations <math>Q = It</math> and <math>E=QV</math>?</li> <li>• How and where should an ammeter and a voltmeter be connected in a circuit?</li> <li>• How does one connect a circuit based diagram?</li> <li>• What is a series/parallel circuit?</li> <li>• What are the rules for calculating current and</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• insulator</li> <li>• conductor</li> <li>• static charge</li> <li>• positively/negatively charged</li> <li>• (free) electrons</li> <li>• electrostatic attraction/repulsion</li> <li>• induction</li> <li>• van de Graaf generator</li> <li>• spark(ing)</li> <li>• electric shock</li> <li>• polythene rod</li> <li>• (electric) field</li> <li>• current</li> <li>• conventional current</li> <li>• electron current</li> <li>• amp</li> <li>• potential difference</li> <li>• volt</li> <li>• voltmeter, ammeter, ohmmeter, multi-meter</li> <li>• positive/negative terminals</li> <li>• bulb OR lamp, switch, wires, cell, battery, power supply, diode, bell, fuse, resistor, variable resistor (rheostat)</li> <li>• light emitting diode (LED)</li> <li>• light dependent resistor (LDR)</li> <li>• thermistor</li> <li>• transformer</li> <li>• series</li> <li>• parallel</li> <li>• cross-section(al) area</li> <li>• power</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Numeracy</li> <li>• Problem-solving</li> <li>• Analytical skills</li> <li>• Evaluative skills</li> <li>• Higher level experimental skills e.g. setting up circuits independently</li> <li>• Ability to apply experimental techniques and graphical skills to collect accurate results and interpret results using a scientific framework.</li> <li>• Solve higher level synoptic problems (grade 8/9) that require the application of concepts across various topics from this and previous years.</li> <li>• Independent learning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whole class discussion</li> <li>• Pair work</li> <li>• Class demonstrations</li> <li>• Required practical activities</li> <li>• Problem-solving tasks</li> <li>• Watching short video clips</li> <li>• Class and homework worksheets</li> <li>• Independent learning</li> </ul>

		<p>p.d. in series and parallel circuits?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is and what causes electrical resistance?</li> <li>• What is the relationship between resistance and current?</li> <li>• What is the relationship between the length of a wire and resistance (and current)?</li> <li>• What is the relationship between cross-sectional area of a wire and resistance (and current)?</li> <li>• What is a resistor?</li> <li>• How is total resistance determined in series and parallel circuits?</li> <li>• What is the relationship between the resistance of a component and the p.d. across it?</li> <li>• What does the equation <math>V = IR</math> mean and how is it used?</li> <li>• What is power in circuits? (<math>P = E/t = IV = I^2R = V^2/R</math>)</li> <li>• How are the equations used together to solve more complex circuit problems?</li> </ul>			
Spring Term	IV Characteristics of conductors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is an I-V characteristic graph?</li> <li>• What is an ohmic/non-ohmic conductor? What is Ohm's Law?</li> <li>• What is a rheostat? How is it used to vary resistance and current in a circuit?</li> <li>• How should components be connected to determine the IV characteristic of a conductor?</li> <li>• What are the shapes of the IV graphs for a resistor, a filament lamp and a diode?</li> <li>• What does each graph say about the resistance of the component as p.d. increases and why?</li> <li>• What are LDRs?</li> <li>• What is the relationship between resistance and light intensity for an LDR?</li> <li>• What are thermistors?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I-V characteristic</li> <li>• ohmic/non-ohmic conductors (Ohm's Law)</li> <li>• rheostat or variable resistor</li> <li>• light emitting diode (LED)</li> <li>• light dependent resistance (LDR)</li> <li>• thermistor</li> <li>• alternating current (AC)</li> <li>• direct current (DC)</li> <li>• alternating current (AC)</li> <li>• three-cored cable</li> <li>• neutral wire, live wire, earth wire</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Numeracy</li> <li>• Problem-solving</li> <li>• Analytical skills</li> <li>• Evaluative skills</li> <li>• Higher level experimental skills e.g. setting up circuits independently</li> <li>• Ability to apply experimental techniques and graphical skills to collect accurate results and interpret results using a scientific framework.</li> <li>• Solve higher level synoptic problems (grade 8/9) that require the application of concepts across various topics from this and previous years.</li> </ul>	

	<p>Electricity in the Home</p> <p>Magnetism</p> <p>Electromagnetism</p> <p>Electromagnetic induction</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is the relationship between resistance and temperature for a thermistors?</li> <li>• How are LDRs and thermistors used in sensor circuits?</li> <li>• What is alternating current (AC) and direct current (DC)?</li> <li>• What is in a three-core cable?</li> <li>• What is a magnetic field?</li> <li>• What are magnetic materials?</li> <li>• What are the rules of attraction and repulsion</li> <li>• What is a domain?</li> <li>• What is the difference between a magnetic material and a magnet?</li> <li>• What is induced magnetism?</li> <li>• What is the shape of the magnetic field around a bar magnet?</li> <li>• What is a (plotting) compass and how is it used to determine the magnetic field direction?</li> <li>• What is the shape of the field around a current-carrying wire?</li> <li>• How is the direction of the field determined?</li> <li>• What is the shape of a field around a solenoid with a current?</li> <li>• What are the factors that affect the strength of the field around a solenoid?</li> <li>• What are examples of applications of electromagnets?</li> <li>• What is the motor effect?</li> <li>• What is the magnitude of the force on a conductor in a magnetic field? What factors affect it? (<math>F = BIL</math>)</li> <li>• How is Fleming's left-hand rule to determine the direction of the force?</li> <li>• What are examples of applications of the motor effect?</li> <li>• What is a generator?</li> <li>• What is an induced current?</li> <li>• How do we generate electricity?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• magnetic field</li> <li>• magnetic material</li> <li>• polarity, north and south poles</li> <li>• attraction/repulsions</li> <li>• induced magnetism</li> <li>• permanent/temporary magnetism</li> <li>• plotting compass</li> <li>• electromagnetism</li> <li>• solenoid</li> <li>• right-hand rule</li> <li>• electromagnetic relay</li> <li>• electric bell</li> <li>• motor effect</li> <li>• motors, loudspeakers</li> <li>• electromagnetic induction</li> <li>• induced current</li> <li>• generators</li> <li>• transformers</li> <li>• primary/secondary coil</li> <li>• step-up/down transformers</li> <li>• national grid</li> </ul>		
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are other applications of electromagnetic induction?</li> <li>• What is a transformer?</li> <li>• How is p.d. and current in the primary coil related to the secondary coil?</li> <li>• What is a step up/down transformer?</li> <li>• What is the national grid?</li> </ul>			
Summer Term	Nuclear physics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is radioactivity?</li> <li>• What are the three types of radioactive decay?</li> <li>• How are these decays represented in decay equations?</li> <li>• What are the properties of the different decay particles?</li> <li>• What is the activity of a source?</li> <li>• What is the half-life of a source and how is it calculated?</li> <li>• What are the risks and uses of radiation?</li> <li>• What is irradiation and contamination?</li> <li>• What is background radiation?</li> <li>• What is nuclear fission/fusion?</li> <li>• What is a chain reaction?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• seismic waves</li> <li>• isotope</li> <li>• radioactive decay</li> <li>• alpha, beta, gamma decay</li> <li>• activity of a radioactive source</li> <li>• half-life</li> <li>• background radiation</li> <li>• irradiation</li> <li>• contamination</li> <li>• nuclear fission/fusion</li> <li>• chain reaction</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Numeracy</li> <li>• Problem-solving</li> <li>• Analytical skills</li> <li>• Evaluative skills</li> <li>• Higher level experimental skills e.g. setting up circuits independently</li> <li>• Ability to apply experimental techniques and graphical skills to collect accurate results and interpret results using a scientific framework.</li> <li>• Solve higher level synoptic problems (grade 8/9) that require the application of concepts across various topics from this and previous years.</li> </ul>	

Equipment needed for lessons	How will learning and progress be assessed?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Standard school stationery</li> <li>• Exercise book</li> <li>• Calculator</li> <li>• 30-cm ruler</li> <li>• protractor</li> <li>• Glue stick</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• End of unit tests (subject knowledge focus)</li> <li>• Formal assessment week (May)</li> <li>• Peer and self-assessment</li> <li>• Homework tasks (often worksheets with problems and extended questions)</li> <li>• Independent study</li> <li>• Retrieval practice activities</li> </ul>

Extension & Enrichment opportunities	What can you do to support your child?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extended reading: New Scientist, Scientific American, and an engineering journal Ingenia, available to loan (outside technician's prep room)</li> <li>• Higher Tier 9-1 past papers for practice can be found at: <a href="https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/physics-8463/assessment-resources">https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/physics-8463/assessment-resources</a> OR <a href="https://www.savemyexams.co.uk/gcse/physics/aqa/-/pages/past-papers/">https://www.savemyexams.co.uk/gcse/physics/aqa/-/pages/past-papers/</a></li> <li>• There are a wide range of youtube videos that offer extra support for Higher Tier. Below are some examples: Physics Online <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WtPeQsEwEWA">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WtPeQsEwEWA</a></li> <li>• Isaac Physics</li> <li>• <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A3ScQOMy4fg&amp;list=PLmFthZ_IoSnefUuwpEU-_qPJ0QkYMcu9&amp;index=4">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A3ScQOMy4fg&amp;list=PLmFthZ_IoSnefUuwpEU-_qPJ0QkYMcu9&amp;index=4</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage your child to proactively seek help when unsure about any aspect of the work (eg. by attending weekly Physics Drop-In).</li> <li>• Encourage them to read the appropriate sections of the textbook and attempt the extra questions for practice and consolidation.</li> <li>• Discuss whether they would benefit from having extra study aids -a revision guide or revision cards, such as those available from CGP.</li> </ul>
Inclusion	Inclusion in Year 11 Physics
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All teachers read the individual student passports and SEND requirements.</li> <li>• Teachers will make reasonable adjustments and adapt aspects of their teaching delivery to accommodate viable changes and modifications to allow all pupils to access the subject content.</li> <li>• Exams access - We follow the JCQ guidelines on access in unit tests, end-of-year assessments and mock examinations.</li> <li>• Light sensitivity – students can wear coloured glasses in lessons to reduce glare</li> <li>• Visual impairment – sat in front, larger fonts where possible or magnified photocopies if the article/activity is not available for modification digitally</li> <li>• Hearing impairment – sat in front or where student passport suggests is the best position</li> <li>• Physical impairment – student can under certain circumstances be allocated a word processor. They can also photocopy of classmate's notes, take photos of a classmate's notes to print, change classrooms for mobility or room access</li> <li>• Dyslexia – Word processor as advised by school SEND coordinator</li> <li>• ADHD – Movement breaks, fidget toys</li> <li>• Autism spectrum – clear and logical set of instructions, writing homework on the board, use of ear defenders</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For pupils with visual impairment, enlarged graph paper for plotting graphs during experiments will be available.</li> <li>• For upper body physical impairment, pupils are allowed to photocopy or take photographs of a classmate's exercise book. A word processor is not always a practical option for labelled diagrams, drawing apparatus or drawing graphs.</li> <li>• Where possible we amend practical equipment or provide a magnifying glass to view instruments.</li> <li>• Videos shown with subtitles.</li> <li>• Some laboratories have height-adjustable benches for wheelchair access</li> </ul>

**If you have any questions about this Learning Overview, please contact the named Teacher above.**