



Richard Challoner School

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Physics FAQs

Exam Board & Specification

OCR's A Level in Physics A; [Specification](#)

Course Entry Requirements

2x Grade 6s in 2 Science GCSEs including Physics and Additional Science (Triple science), GCSE Grade 6-6 in Combined Science, and Grade 5 or above in Maths GCSE (Higher Tier)

Length and size of qualification

2-year single course

Assessment method

3 exams and a practical assessment

What will I study?

You will study forces, motion, electrons, waves and photons in the first year. You will also learn how to use physical quantities and units, scalars and vectors. Throughout this subject and especially in the second year you will apply your knowledge to Newtonian world, astrophysics, particle and medical physics.

Practical work is an important aspect; students keep a lab book to evidence their skills.

How is the course assessed?

Three exams at the end of the two-year course. Practical Endorsement in Physics. This is a non-exam assessment that involves carrying out 12 different practical investigations and providing evidence for each one in a folder submitted at the end of the course.

What can I do with an A level in physics?

Physics is a highly regarded A Level whatever your future choice of career. Physics graduates are highly valued for their problem solving and numeracy.

“Doing ordinary things extraordinarily well” – The Venerable Richard Challoner

A Physics A level is a great starting point for a career in scientific research, as well as in a range of careers in business, finance, IT, astrophysics, geophysics, materials science, forensic science, medical science (e.g. Medical Physicist), education and engineering. Physics will help you to build up your problem solving, research, and analytical skills. With these skills you will be able to test out new ideas plus question and investigate other peoples' theories, which is useful for any kind of job that involves research or debate. Jobs where your degree would be useful include: Engineer, Investment Analyst, Meteorologist, Nuclear Engineer, Operational Researcher, Patent Attorney, PPC Specialist, Systems Developer, and many more.

Useful websites include the Institute of Physics, Physics.org, All About Careers and The Apprenticeship Guide.