

For exams January, May and November onwards
For teaching from September 2021 onwards

SPECIFICATION 



Learning
Resource Network

LRN INTERNATIONAL GCSE **PHYSICS (6321)**



THE QUEEN'S AWARDS
FOR ENTERPRISE:
INTERNATIONAL TRADE
2020

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BACKGROUND TO LRN

Learning Resource Network (LRN) is a recognised Awarding Organisation that offers a range of qualifications to candidates, educational institutes, training providers, schools and employers.

LRN is recognised for its high quality qualifications that enable candidates to progress to other areas of study and employment in their designated fields.

In producing its qualifications, LRN uses the experience and expertise of academics, professionals working in the pertinent industries and assessment practitioners with a wealth of best practice and knowledge of validation, verification, delivery and assessment.

ACCOLADES

Queen's Award

In April 2020, LRN received the Queen's Award for Enterprise for International Trade. LRN is one of 220 organisations in the UK to be recognised with this prestigious accolade. This was in recognition of the expansion LRN brought to the overseas qualification market.

MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

LRN has been awarded international accreditation as part of its quality controls, policies, systems and overall approach to its management systems. These awards are externally validated by the British Assessment Bureau. LRN has achieved accreditation in the form of ISO 9001: Quality Management Systems, ISO 14001: Environment Management Systems and ISO 27001: Information Security Management Systems.

CUSTOMER SERVICE EXCELLENCE

LRN has achieved the prestigious award of Customer Service Excellence. This is in recognition of its customer service practices, approach to managing and dealing with UK and Overseas customer needs, including the diverse needs of its centres.

LRN was the first UK Awarding Organisation to achieve Customer Service Excellence. Following reaccreditation in 2019, LRN received an award for Customer Service Excellence: Compliance Plus, demonstrating that LRN went above and beyond the delivery of its customer service principles.



INTRODUCTION

This specification provides an overview to the LRN International GCSE Physics¹. This document is suitable for various users, including candidates, centres, administrators, employers, parents/guardians, teachers (and other related staff) and examiners. The specification outlines the key features and administrative procedures required for this international qualification.

OBJECTIVE

The LRN International GCSE Physics is designed to enable international candidates to demonstrate their ability, to work scientifically in both practical and theoretical terms across a range of general skills, motion, forces, energy, waves, electricity, magnetism, thermal physics, nuclear and space.

MODE OF DELIVERY

This qualification has been constructed to be delivered within centres. Centres will need to demonstrate to LRN, through the centre recognition processes, that they have the resources, facilities and competence to deliver. However, centres must be able to demonstrate, in line with LRN's criteria, that they have the means, capability, capacity and resources (including suitably qualified centre staff) to deliver by the method chosen by the centre.

PROGRESSION

The LRN International GCSE Physics has been designed to reflect the wide variation in candidates' origins, levels of education and career aims. Progression opportunities may, therefore, take a variety of paths. Depending on the level of qualification achieved, it may be appropriate for the candidate to progress to:

1. Similar level 2 qualification in Physics;
2. LRN Level 2 Certificate or Diploma in Pre-A Foundation Studies;
3. LRN Level 3 Diploma in Pre-U Foundation Studies;
4. A higher level of any qualification – e.g. A-Level, Diploma
5. Vocationally Related Qualifications

¹ LRN International GCSEs are globally recognised qualifications designed specifically for international candidates and are available outside the United Kingdom. Candidates based in England refer to the Ofqual register.

QUALIFICATION OVERVIEW

Number	Subject Content	AO	Exam
1	General Skills	1, 2 and 3	Combination of written exam papers (externally set and marked) and a practical demonstration of skills. Paper 1: Multiple Choice, Extended Theory and practical based skills. Duration: 2 hours Paper 2: Multiple Choice, Extended Theory and practical based skills. Duration: 2 hours
2	Motion	1, 2 and 3	
3	Forces	1, 2 and 3	
4	Energy	1, 2 and 3	
5	Waves	1, 2 and 3	
6	Electricity	1, 2 and 3	
7	Magnetism	1, 2 and 3	
8	Thermal Physics	1, 2 and 3	
9	Nuclear	1, 2 and 3	
10	Space	1, 2 and 3	

BREAKDOWN OF ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES

AO1 - demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:

- scientific ideas
- scientific techniques and procedures

AO2 – apply knowledge and understanding of:

- scientific ideas
- scientific enquiry, techniques and procedures

AO3 – analyse information and ideas to:

- interpret and evaluate
- make judgements and draw conclusions
- develop and improve experimental procedures

ASSESSMENT

The assessment for this qualification consists of (i) written exam papers, and (ii) practical demonstration of skills, set and marked by the LRN.

Assessment objectives (AOs)	Weighting	
	Paper 1	Paper 2
AO1	30%	30%
AO2	40%	40%
AO3	30%	30%

GUIDED LEARNING HOURS

The guided learning hours (GLH) for this qualification are 130. Please note the hours stated are indicative.

ENTRIES CODES

One entry per qualification is sufficient and will cover all the question papers including certification.

PRIVATE CANDIDATES

Centres are advised that private candidates are only to be enrolled with prior agreement and confirmation from LRN.

GRADING

Results are reported, as 9 to 1.

RESULTS

Exam series are in:

- January (results released in March)
- June (results released in August)
- November (results released in January)

RE-TAKES

Whereas candidates can re-take the whole qualification as often as they wish, individual components cannot be re-taken as it is a traditional linear specification.

Please remember, one entry per qualification is sufficient and will cover all the question papers including certification.

CUSTOMER SERVICE STATEMENT

Learning Resource Network (LRN) is committed to ensuring all customers are dealt with promptly and in a professional and helpful manner. In order to guarantee this, we commit to ensuring the following in our day to day interactions with candidates, assessment centres and our stakeholder network:

- All customers will be treated equally and with respect;
- All customer information will only be used in a way which has been agreed in advance, unless we are informed of something that places them or others at risk of harm;
- All customers will be treated by staff in a professional manner.

LRN has arrangements in place to provide a telephone and e-mail helpdesk which will be staffed from 09:00 to 17:00 from Monday to Friday. Furthermore, it will respond to each e-mail, letter or telephone message it receives regarding feedback on its qualifications, centre approvals process or other matters relating to its products and/or services. The timetable for responding is as follows:

- E-mail: 5 working days
- Letter: 5 working days
- Telephone message: 5 working days

DIVERSITY AND EQUALITY

Learning Resource Network (LRN) is committed to ensuring fair and equal access to its qualifications, examinations and support materials. Our Diversity and Equality policy seeks to eliminate unjustifiable discrimination, harassment and/or victimisation and to advance equality of opportunity, thereby ensuring all candidates are treated fairly, in accordance with the protected characteristics of the Equality Act 2010. Specifically, we comply fully with the requirements laid out in the Equality Act 2010. In addition, and within the constraints of this policy, LRN will have due regard for the General data Protection Regulations (GDPR) in the retention of information which is unnecessary.

1- General Skills			
Aim			
Learners will be expected to use the following skills throughout the course and will be assessed on them across all the units.			
Learning Outcomes - The learner will:		Assessment Criteria - The learner can:	
1	Understand units.	1.1	State the correct SI units (name and symbol) for physical quantities.
		1.2	Recall and make use of the SI unit prefixes (names and symbols) nano [n], micro [μ], milli [m], kilo [k], mega [M] and giga [G].
		1.3	Convert between units as part of a calculation.
		1.4	State calculation answers to an appropriate number of significant figures. Usually 2 or 3sf is sufficient. 1sf is usually not enough to gain correct answer marks. A question that states "Show that" requires a value to be seen to at least one more significant figure than the value asked for.
		1.5	State the correct symbols for physical quantities.
2	Understand how to plot graphs.	2.1	Draw axes using a ruler.
		2.2	Label axes with descriptions and units.
		2.3	Label axes with correct scales. They should be continuous with equal increments, and the increments should be factors of 1, 2, 5 and 10 (e.g. 0.05, but not 30). The scale does not need to start at zero, but it should be clearly labelled.
		2.4	Plot data points using a cross. The centre of the cross should be within half a grid square of the correct point.
		2.5	Draw a line of best fit using a ruler. The line should go through the middle of the data, so there should be about the same number of points above and below the line. The line does not need to pass through any of the points and should not simply connect the first and last points.
		2.6	Label different data sets clearly if they are plotted on the same axes.
		2.7	Draw a triangle at least half the size of one of the graph dimensions when finding a gradient.
		2.8	Draw and shade in the area under a graph when using it to calculate a value.

		2.9	Draw sketch graph axes with a ruler.
		2.10	Label sketch graph axes with descriptions but not units.
		2.11	Sketch the general shape of a sketch graph.
3	Understand how to make measurements.	3.1	Calculate the mean of a data set.
		3.2	Describe measurements of length using an appropriate device. <3cm micrometer (or Vernier callipers), 3cm-1m metre rule, 1m-10m tape measure, 10m+ trundle wheel.
		3.3	Describe how to measure the volume/diameter of a cylinder. e.g. Measure a wire by measuring its diameter (usually with a micrometer) at different points along it and at different orientations, then take an average.
		3.4	Describe how to measure small dimensions by measuring multiple objects. e.g. Measuring the thickness of paper by measuring a large number of identical sheets stacked next to each other and finding the average.
		3.5	Describe how to measure vertical distances, including making sure the measurement is actually vertical. Use set-squares or plumb-line to check.
		3.6	Describe measurements of time using an appropriate device. Stop-watch/stop-clock, or timer are acceptable. Clocks and watches are not accurate enough for times less than several hours.
		3.7	Describe how to measure a small-time interval by measuring multiple consecutive events. e.g., Timing a pendulum swing by timing a large number of repetitions and finding the average.
		3.8	Describe measurements of mass using an appropriate device. (Electronic) balance is acceptable. Scales are not accurate enough for masses less than about 100kg.
		3.9	Describe how to measure a small mass by measuring a large number of identical objects.
		3.10	Describe how to measure volumes using appropriate equipment. A measuring cylinder for liquids, a displacement can and measuring cylinder for oddly shaped objects, measurements and calculations for regular objects.
		3.11	Describe how to measure current and potential difference.

		3.12	Describe how to use a thermometer to find the temperature of a solid, liquid or gas. Ensuring thermal contact with the solid, not in contact with a fluids container, ensuring that the fluid is stirred, and waiting for the thermometer to reach the same temperature as the material it is measuring.
		3.13	Describe measurements of angle using an appropriate device.
		3.14	Define an 'Anomaly' as a measurement result that is significantly far away from the other results (compared to the uncertainty in the measurements).
4	Understand how to conduct an experiment.	4.1	Identify the independent, dependent variables and control variables in an experiment.
		4.2	Describe how variables are measured and/or controlled.
		4.3	Draw a labelled diagram of the apparatus and/or circuit.
		4.4	State safety precautions.
		4.5	Describe how to conduct the experiment. A student who is just starting International GCSE should be able to follow your description and obtain usable results.
		4.6	State which parts are to be repeated for accuracy, which results are ignored as anomalies, and that you will take an average.
		4.7	State what changes you would make to the independent variable before repeating the whole process.
		4.8	State the equations you would use to calculate the results.
		4.9	Describe the graph you would plot and how you would obtain results from it.

2		Motion	
Aim			
Physics is all about how things move and change. The aim of this subject content is to describe, depict, calculate and predict the motion of objects.			
Learning Outcomes - The learner will:		Assessment Criteria - The learner can:	
1		1.1	List examples of scalar quantities.
		1.2	List examples of vector quantities.
		1.3	State an appropriate direction along with a magnitude for vector quantities.
		1.4	Draw vector diagrams.
		1.5	Determine the sum of two vectors using vector diagrams.
2	Understand displacement, velocity and acceleration.	2.1	Define 'Displacement' as the distance travelled in a given direction and use distance and displacement correctly in descriptions.
		2.2	Define 'Speed' as the distance travelled per unit time.
		2.3	Solve problems using $v = \frac{s}{t}$ and Average Speed = $\frac{\text{Total Distance}}{\text{Total Time}}$.
		2.4	Define 'Velocity' as the speed in a given direction and use speed and velocity correctly in descriptions.
		2.5	Outline an experiment to find the average speed of a given object moving in a straight line.
		2.6	Define 'Acceleration' as the rate of change of velocity.
		2.7	State that acceleration can cause the velocity to increase or decrease, and/or change direction.
		2.8	Understand that 'Deceleration' is the 'Rate of decrease of velocity'.
		2.9	Solve problems using $a = \frac{\Delta v}{\Delta t}$, and Average Acceleration = $\frac{\text{Change in Velocity}}{\text{Time Taken}}$.

		2.10	Outline an experiment to find the average acceleration of a given object moving in a straight line.
3	Understand motion graphs.	3.1	Draw distance-time and velocity-time graphs.
		3.2	Interpret distance-time and velocity-time graphs.
		3.3	Calculate speed from the gradient of a distance-time graph.
		3.4	Calculate acceleration from the gradient of a velocity-time graph.
		3.5	Calculate distance travelled from the area under a velocity-time graph.
		3.6	Identify key points on a distance-time or velocity-time graph.
4	Understand the equations of motion.	4.1	State that the 'SUVAT' equations of motion describe the movement of objects under constant acceleration.
		4.2	Recognise situations where velocity or acceleration are constant, or where acceleration is changing (from descriptions, data or graphs).
		4.3	Solve problems using $s = ut + \frac{1}{2}at^2$.
		4.4	Solve problems using $v = u + at$.
		4.5	Solve problems using $s = \frac{u+v}{2}t$.
		4.6	Solve problems using $v^2 = u^2 + 2as$ (equation given).
		4.7	Calculate the average velocity of an object using $\text{Average Velocity} = \frac{u+v}{2}$.
		4.8	Estimate typical speeds and the magnitude of common accelerations.
5.	Understand momentum.	5.1	Define 'Momentum' as the product of an objects (inertial) mass and its velocity.
		5.2	Solve problems using $p = mv$.

		5.3	State that momentum is conserved unless an external force acts.
		5.4	Explain how a moving object can lose momentum.
		5.5	Use $\text{Total Momentum Before} = \text{Total Momentum After}$ to solve problems involving the collision of two objects (assuming no external forces) in one dimension.
		5.6	Explain why momentum is conserved during a collision.
		5.7	Outline an experiment to test the conservation of momentum.

3		Forces	
Aim			
Forces mediate the interactions between objects. The aim of this subject content is to explain the interaction of objects through forces and how those forces can balance out to produce a system in equilibrium.			
Learning Outcomes - The learner will:		Assessment Criteria - The learner can:	
1	Understand forces.	1.1	Define a 'Force' as an interaction that tries to change an objects momentum.
		1.2	List examples of forces.
		1.3	Draw force vectors as arrows with length proportional to the magnitude of the force.
		1.4	Describe how multiple forces can be represented by a single resultant force.
		1.5	Calculate the resultant of several parallel forces.
		1.6	Use vector diagrams to find the resultant force in an unbalanced (non-equilibrium) system, or to find the unknown force in a balanced (equilibrium) system.
		1.7	Draw free-body diagrams for simple systems.
		1.8	Explain why stretching, compressing or bending an object requires more than one force to be acting on the object.
		1.9	Distinguish between internal (acting between two objects inside the system) forces and external (acting on an object in the system from outside it) forces.
		1.10	Describe resistance forces as forces that oppose motion, and give examples.
		1.11	State that friction and air resistance increase as the speed of an object increases.
		1.12	State that the force due to gravity/gravitational field strength/acceleration due to gravity is constant near the Earth's surface.
		1.13	Explain the motion of a body falling in a constant gravitational field in terms of the forces acting on it.
		1.14	Describe 'Terminal Velocity' as the velocity reached when the accelerating force is balanced by the resistance forces, so that the resultant force/acceleration is zero, and therefore the velocity does not change.

2	Understand Newton's Laws.	2.1	State and use Newton's First Law – An object maintains its state of motion unless acted upon by an external resultant force.
		2.2	State and use Newton's Second Law – An object accelerates when acted upon by an external resultant force.
		2.3	Solve problems using $F = ma$, where m is the inertial mass.
		2.4	Define the 'Inertial Mass' as the resistance to changing the velocity of an object, given by $m = \frac{F}{a}$. {The distinction between inertial and gravitational mass will not be examined, and use of the term 'inertial' will not be expected by the student}
		2.5	Define 'Weight' as the force exerted on an object (with mass) by gravity.
		2.6	Recall that the gravitational field strength, g , is 10 m/s at the Earth's surface, and that it will be different on other planets/moons/etc.
		2.7	Solve problems using $\text{Weight} = mg$, where g is given if the object is not on the Earth's surface.
		2.8	Explain why motion in a circle at a constant speed requires a constant force (towards the centre of the circle).
		2.9	State and use Newton's Third Law – When an object exerts a force on a second object, the second object exerts an equal and opposite force on the first.
		2.10	Identify Newton's Third Law force pairs.
		2.11	Explain why two forces are/aren't Third Law pairs.
		2.12	Outline an experiment to estimate human reaction times.
		2.13	Recall typical human reaction times (~0.1-0.2 seconds).
		2.14	Explain factors that affect the stopping distance [thinking distance + braking distance] of a car in an emergency.
		2.15	Explain the dangers of high deceleration and estimate the forces involved in normal traffic situations and during crashes.
		2.16	Explain , using Newton's Laws and the equations of motion, how car safety systems reduce the force, and therefore the damage, on passengers in a crash. {Answers involving the force being proportional to the rate of change of momentum will be accepted, but not expected}

3	Understand forces acting on springs.	3.1	State that a force can change the shape of an object.
		3.2	State that if an object returns to its original shape when the force deforming it is removed then the change was elastic, otherwise the change is inelastic.
		3.3	State Hooke's Law as the extension of a spring is directly proportional to the force causing the extension.
		3.4	Solve problems using $F = kx$.
		3.5	Outline an experiment to find the spring constant of a metal spring.
		3.6	Define the 'Limit of Proportionality' as the point beyond which Hooke's law no longer applies.
		3.7	Define the 'Elastic Limit' as the point beyond which a stretched object will not return to its original length when the force is removed.
		3.8	Identify the limit of proportionality and the elastic limit on a Force-Extension graph.
		3.9	Interpret Force-Extension graphs and use them to calculate a spring constant, and the energy stored, below the limit of proportionality.
4	Understand pressure.	4.1	Define 'Pressure' as the force per unit area.
		4.2	State that the pressure on a surface is at right angles (normal) to the surface.
		4.3	Solve problems using $P = \frac{F}{A}$.
		4.4	Explain why pressure in a fluid varies with height or depth.
		4.5	State that the pressure at a point in a fluid is the same in all directions.
		4.6	Define 'Density' as the mass per unit volume of a material.
		4.7	Solve problems using $\rho = \frac{m}{v}$.
		4.8	Explain why the pressure in a fluid depends in the density of the fluid.
		4.9	Solve problems using $P = \rho gh$ (equation given).

		4.10	Explain how the difference in pressure above and below a partially submerged object leads to an upwards force (buoyancy) on the object.
		4.11	Describe factors that affect whether an object sinks or floats.
		4.12	Explain why one object floats while the other sinks even though they have the same mass and are made from the same material.
5.	Understand moments.	5.1	Define a 'Moment' as the turning effect of a force.
		5.2	Describe everyday examples where forces cause rotation.
		5.3	Solve problems using $\text{Moment} = \text{Force} \times (\text{Perpendicular}) \text{Distance to Pivot}$.
		5.4	State the 'Principle of Moments': In a balanced system the sum of the clockwise moments is equal to the sum of the anti-clockwise moments (about a single point).
		5.5	Outline an experiment to test the principle of moments.
		5.6	Solve problems using the principle of moments.
		5.7	Explain how a lever can be used to lift a heavy object.
		5.8	Explain how gears transmit and change a rotational force.
		5.9	Define the 'Centre of Mass' as the point in an object where all the mass appears to act from.
		5.10	Explain why an object does not rotate if its centre of mass is directly above a fulcrum.
		5.11	Explain what effect the position of the centre of mass (vertically or horizontally) has on the stability of an object.
		5.12	Outline a method to find the centre of mass of an object.

4		Energy	
Aim			
Energy is the driving force behind changes in the physical world. The Aim of this subject content is to explain what the quantity called 'Energy' is, how it can cause motion, and how it can be moved between different stores in order to produce useful effects.			
Learning Outcomes - The learner will:		Assessment Criteria - The learner can:	
1	Understand energy stores and changes.	1.1	Define 'Work' as the energy transferred when a force causes an object to move a distance.
		1.2	Solve problems using $W = Fd$.
		1.3	Define 'Energy' as the capacity to do Work.
		1.4	List examples of 'Energy Stores'.
		1.5	Describe the energy transfers that take place in common devices or situations.
		1.6	Define 'Power' as the rate at which energy is transferred.
		1.7	Solve problems using $P = \frac{W}{t}$.
2	Understand energy conservation and efficiency.	2.1	State that energy is conserved.
		2.2	Define 'Useful' energy as the energy output in the forms a device was intended to produce, and 'Wasted' energy as the energy output in the forms a device was not intended to produce.
		2.3	Identify useful and wasted energies in common devices or situations.
		2.4	Calculate an unknown energy using Total Energy In = Total Energy Out .
		2.5	Explain how energy tends to dissipate/spread out among objects in a system, and that system's surroundings, so that it is stored in less useful ways.
		2.6	Draw Sankey diagrams from data.
		2.7	Calculate the efficiency of a system using $\text{Efficiency} = \frac{\text{Useful Energy}}{\text{Total Energy}}$.
		2.8	Explain ways of improving the efficiency of a system

		2.9	Explain how parts of a building reduce the amount of heat lost to the environment.
3	Understand energy calculations	3.1	Solve problems using $K.E. = \frac{1}{2}mv^2$.
		3.2	Solve problems using $G.P.E. = mgh$.
		3.3	Solve problems using Energy Stored in a Spring (E.P.E.) = $\frac{1}{2}kx^2$ (equation given).
		3.4	Solve problems involving the transfer of energy between K.E., G.P.E. and E.P.E.
		3.5	Outline an experiment to test the conservation of energy using a falling object.
		3.6	Solve problems involving the work done on a system and the K.E., G.P.E. and E.P.E. gained.
		3.7	Solve problems involving the power put into a system and the K.E., G.P.E. and E.P.E. gained.
4.	Understand energy resources.	4.1	Explain how the main energy sources available on Earth are used to generate electricity.
		4.2	Define 'Renewable Energy Sources' as sources which replenish themselves faster than they can be used.
		4.3	Compare and Contrast the main energy sources in terms of renewability, reliability, cost to set-up, cost to run, environmental impact and limitations.
		4.4	Explain why an energy source would or would not be suitable in a given situation.

5		Waves	
Aim			
Waves are a class of phenomena across many different areas of physics. The aim of this subject content is to understand the similarities and differences of different types of wave, and how wave properties and the way they interact with materials can be used to our advantage.			
Learning Outcomes - The learner will:		Assessment Criteria - The learner can:	
1	Understand the characteristics of waves.	1.1	Describe waves as oscillations that transfer energy without transferring matter.
		1.2	Define the term 'Amplitude' as the difference between the maximum value of the wave and the equilibrium value.
		1.3	Define the term 'Wavelength' as the distance between two adjacent maxima (or minima).
		1.4	Define the term 'Frequency' as the number of wavelengths passing a point per second.
		1.5	Define the term 'Period' as the time taken for one whole wavelength to pass a point.
		1.6	Label diagrams of waves with: amplitude, wavelength or period, crest and trough.
		1.7	Solve problems using $v = f\lambda$
		1.8	Compare and Contrast transverse and longitudinal waves and give examples of each type.
2	Understand the interaction of waves with a boundary.	2.1	Define the term 'Reflection' as an abrupt change in direction of a wave when it meets a boundary, such that it remains in the original material.
		2.2	Define the term 'Refraction' as an abrupt change in direction of a wave when it meets a boundary, such that it passes into the second material.
		2.3	Define the term 'Diffraction' as the spreading out of a wave as it passes through a gap, or travels past an object.
		2.4	Define the term 'Transmission' as the passing of all or part of a wave completely through an object or region.
		2.5	Define the term 'Absorption' as the transfer of energy from a wave into the medium it is passing through.
		2.6	Identify angles of 'Incidence', 'Reflection' and 'Refraction'.

		2.7	Describe reflection at a plane surface and relate it the effect of reflections from smooth (specular reflection) and rough surfaces (diffuse reflection).
		2.8	State and use the law of reflection <i>angle of incidence = angle of reflection</i> .
		2.9	Outline an experiment to test the law of reflection.
		2.10	Explain refraction at a boundary in terms of the change in wavelength due a change in speed at constant frequency.
		2.11	Solve problems using $n_1 \sin \theta_1 = n_2 \sin \theta_2$ where a light wave passes between air and a transparent material.
		2.12	Outline an experiment to find the refractive index of an unknown material.
		2.13	Describe the effect on a wave passing through a gap that is either much larger than the wavelength or approximately the same size as the wavelength.
		2.14	State real world examples of reflection, refraction and diffraction.
3	Understand electromagnetic waves.	3.1	State that light is an electromagnetic wave.
		3.2	Recall that the speed of light in a vacuum, c , is 3×10^8 m/s, and that it is approximately the same in air.
		3.3	State the properties of electromagnetic waves. EM waves: transverse, same velocity, travel through a vacuum, and exhibit wave behaviour (e.g., refraction).
		3.4	List the different parts of the electromagnetic spectrum in order of increasing/decreasing wavelength/frequency.
		3.5	Describe means of producing and detecting each of the parts of the electromagnetic spectrum.
		3.6	Describe uses and dangers for each of the parts of the electromagnetic spectrum.
		3.7	List the colours in the visible part of the electromagnetic spectrum in order of increasing/decreasing wavelength/frequency.

		3.8	Describe how the relative amounts of absorption, transmission and reflection of light by a substance depends on the wavelength of light.
		3.9	Explain how colour depends on the differences in absorption, transmission, specular reflection and scattering for different wavelengths.
4.	Understand how to construct ray diagrams.	4.1	Construct a ray diagram to show reflection in a plane mirror.
		4.2	Construct a ray diagram to show the refraction of light passing through a rectangular glass block.
		4.3	Sketch a ray diagram of visible light passing through a prism (dispersion).
		4.4	Define the terms 'Converging', 'Diverging', and 'Focal point'.
		4.5	Construct ray diagrams for convex and concave lenses.
5	Understand sound waves.	5.1	State that sound is a longitudinal wave.
		5.2	Define , and relate to the equivalent wave terms, the terms 'Loudness' [Amplitude], 'Pitch' [Frequency], and 'Echo' [Reflection].
		5.3	Describe sound waves as a series of compressions and rarefactions in a medium.
		5.4	Explain how sound travels through air and solids.
		5.5	Explain why sound travels better and faster through a solid than a gas.
		5.6	State that the range of audible frequencies for humans is about 20Hz to 20kHz.
		5.7	Identify sound waves as 'Ultrasound', 'Infrasound' or 'Audible'.
		5.8	Describe how the frequency dependence of absorption/reflection of a wave incident upon a solid limits the frequency range of detection by a device.
		5.9	Explain why the human hearing range is limited.
		5.10	Outline an experiment to find the speed of sound in air.

6	Understand applications of waves.	6.1	Describe how the interaction of waves with different media can be used to investigate internal/hidden structures.
		6.2	Explain how ultrasound can be used to 'look' inside our bodies, how earthquakes can be used to 'look' inside the Earth, and how sonar can be used to 'look' through deep water.
		6.3	Explain how refraction of light from glass into air leads to Total Internal Reflection.
		6.4	Solve problems using $n = \frac{1}{\sin c}$ where c is the critical angle and define what the critical angle is.
		6.5	Explain how optical fibres use total internal reflection to allow long distance communication (fibre optic cables) and medical diagnosis (endoscopes).
		6.6	Describe how the relative motion of the source and observer leads to a change in observed frequency – Doppler Effect.

6	Electricity		
Aim Electricity is the most diversely used energy source in our modern world. The aim of this subject content is to explain the difference between current and static electricity, how each can be used to produce beneficial effects, and how the dangers of each can be prevented.			
Learning Outcomes - The learner will:		Assessment Criteria - The learner can:	
1	Understand current, potential difference and resistance.	1.1	Define 'Current' as the rate of flow of charge (through a point in a circuit).
		1.2	Solve problems using $I = \frac{Q}{t}$.
		1.3	State that the current in metals is due to the flow of electrons.
		1.4	Recall that electrons flow in the opposite direction to 'Conventional Current'.
		1.5	Define 'Potential Difference' at the energy transferred per unit charge (moving across a component in a circuit). {use of the term 'e.m.f.' will not be expected}
		1.6	solve problems using $V = \frac{W}{Q}$.
		1.7	State that for current to flow a closed circuit and a source of potential difference is required.
		1.8	Define 'Resistance' as the ratio of the potential difference across a component and the current through it.
		1.9	Solve problems using $R = \frac{V}{I}$.
		1.10	State that a component with constant resistance is called an 'Ohmic Conductor'.

		1.11	Identify an ohmic conductor from a graph or data table.
		1.12	Calculate the resistance of an ohmic conductor from a graph or data table.
		1.13	Sketch and identify I-V graphs for fixed resistors, bulbs/lamps, and diodes/LED's.
		1.14	Sketch the I-V graph for a (negative coefficient) thermistor or LDR when the conditions change, given the original curve.
		1.15	Explain I-V graphs for fixed resistors, bulbs/lamps, and diodes/LED's.
		1.16	Explain the changes in the I-V graph for a thermistor or LDR when the conditions change.
		1.17	Calculate the resistance of a component at a specified potential difference given its I-V graph.
		1.18	Solve problems using $P = IV$ (components and devices).
2	Understand series and parallel circuits.	2.1	Draw and identify common component symbols. (wire, cell, battery, switch, fixed resistor, variable resistor, LDR, thermistor, lamp, diode, ammeter, voltmeter)
		2.2	Describe the difference between series and parallel circuits.
		2.3	Draw and interpret simple circuit diagrams using common component symbols.
		2.4	Explain why the resistance of two identical resistors in series is higher than one of the resistors (qualitative only).
		2.5	Calculate the total resistance of two resistors in series using $R_T = R_1 + R_2$.
		2.6	Explain why the resistance of two identical resistors in parallel is lower than one of the resistors (qualitative only).
		2.7	Calculate the total resistance of two resistors in parallel using $\frac{1}{R_T} = \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2}$.
		2.8	Calculate currents, potential differences and resistances in series and parallel circuits using the circuit rules.
		2.9	Outline an experiment to determine the resistance of a fixed resistor using an ammeter and a voltmeter.
		2.10	Outline an experiment to determine how the resistance of an LDR/Thermistor depends on the light level/temperature using an ammeter and a voltmeter.

		2.11	Describe advantages and disadvantages of series and parallel circuits.
3	Understand the mains (domestic) electricity supply.	3.1	Recall that the domestic supply in the <u>UK</u> is A.C. at 50 Hz, and that the voltage is equivalent to D.C. at 230V. {rms is a useful term but is not required}
		3.2	Describe the functions of the 'Live', 'Neutral' and 'Earth' wires in a mains cable or electrical appliance.
		3.3	Identify 'Live', 'Neutral' and 'Earth' wires by their colour codes. {Only the current UK colour codes will be examined, but an appreciation of the existence of past codes and variation across countries should be encouraged}
		3.4	Describe how to safely wire a mains plug. {The position of wires will not be examined}
		3.5	Identify common faults from mains plug diagrams.
		3.6	Explain common electrical hazards in the home.
		3.7	Explain how 'Earth Wires', 'Fuses' and 'Circuit Breakers' protect us from harm.
		3.8	Explain the advantages and disadvantages of 'Earth Wires', 'Fuses' and 'Circuit Breakers'.
		3.9	Explain how a live wire is dangerous even when a plug socket is switched off.
4.	Understand static electricity.	4.1	State that charges are either positive or negative.
		4.2	Describe the direction of the force between two like charges and between two unlike/opposite charges.
		4.3	State that an 'Electric Field' is a region in which an electric charge experiences a force, and that the direction of the field is the direction of the force on a positive charge.
		4.4	Sketch the electric field around a point charge, between two-point charges, around a conducting sphere, and between parallel plates. {Edge effects can be ignored}

		4.5	State that a body becomes charged if electrons are added or removed.
		4.6	Describe 'Static Electricity' as the effects of the electric fields due to separated charges.
		4.7	Describe methods of producing charge separation.
		4.8	Describe the difference between insulators and conductors in terms of the actions of electrons.
		4.9	Explain the effects of static electricity in terms of the actions of electrons in simple situations where a charged insulator is brought close to either a charged insulator, a conductor, or an uncharged insulator.
		4.10	Explain why a build-up of charge on an insulator is dangerous.

7 Magnetism	
Aim	
Magnetism is a fundamental physical force and controlling it allows much of our modern world to function. The aim of this subject content is to describe how magnetic fields can be produced, explain how they can be used to create rotation, and explain how they are used to produce and transfer electricity.	
Learning Outcomes - The learner will:	Assessment Criteria - The learner can:
1 Understand magnetic fields.	1.1 State that all magnets have a North pole and a South pole.
	1.2 Describe the direction of the force between: Two North poles; Two South poles; A North and a South pole; A North or South pole and a magnetic material.
	1.3 State the difference between a permanent magnet and an induced magnet.
	1.4 Use 'Iron' and 'Steel' as examples of materials for constructing permanent and non-permanent magnets.
	1.5 Describe methods for magnetising and demagnetising a permanent magnet.
	1.6 State that a 'Magnetic Field' is a region in which a magnetic pole experiences a force, and that the direction of the field is the direction of the force on a North Pole.
	1.7 Sketch the magnetic field lines around a bar magnet or two separate magnetic poles near each other, and label the direction of the field.
	1.8 Outline an experiment to determine the pattern of the magnetic field around a magnet, and which direction the field points in.
	1.9 Explain why the North Pole of the Earth must be a South Magnetic Pole.
2 Understand electromagnets and the motor effect.	2.1 State that a moving charge (current) produces a magnetic field.
	2.2 State that a solenoid is a coil of conducting wire.
	2.3 Sketch the magnetic field around a straight conducting wire and a solenoid.
	2.4 Use the right-hand grip to determine the direction of the magnetic field around a straight conducting wire or solenoid.
	2.5 Outline an experiment to show that a current carrying wire produces a magnetic field.

		2.6	Describe how the strength of the magnetic field produced depends on the current flowing through the wire and the distance from the wire.
		2.7	Explain how the strength of the magnetic field can be increased.
		2.8	Use Fleming's Left Hand Rule to relate the direction of the force on a current carrying wire inside a magnetic field to the directions of the magnetic field and the current.
		2.9	Solve problems using $F = BIL$ (equation given).
		2.10	Describe the construction of an electro-magnet and some simple uses for it.
		2.11	Explain why an electromagnet uses an iron core and not a steel core.
		2.12	Explain how an electric motor works. {The turning effect only}
		2.13	State that a split-ring commutator reverses the current through a DC motor, allowing it to keep turning in the same direction.
		2.14	Describe how the turning force of a motor can be increased.
		3	Understand electromagnetic induction.
3.2	State that 'Electromagnetic Induction' is the production of a potential difference in a conductor due to a changing magnetic field. {Use of the term 'e.m.f.' will not be expected}		
3.3	Outline an experiment to demonstrate electromagnetic induction.		
3.4	Explain how a rotating coil generator produces A.C. current.		
3.5	State that a slip-ring maintains contact with the same side of the generator coil during rotation, and therefore gives A.C. output.		
3.6	State that a split-ring switches contact with the sides of the generator coil during rotation, and therefore gives D.C. output.		

		3.7	Explain how a microphone converts pressure variations (sound wave) into an electrical signal.
		3.8	Explain how a loudspeaker converts an electrical signal into a pressure variation (sound wave).
		3.9	Explain how the current produced by electromagnetic induction must produce a magnetic field that opposes the inducing magnetic field (Lenz's Law).
4.	Understand transformers.	4.1	State that a 'Transformer' is a device for changing the voltage in an A.C. circuit.
		4.2	State the changes that 'Step-up' and 'Step-down' transformers cause to the output voltage and current.
		4.3	Describe the construction of a transformer.
		4.4	Explain how a transformer works.
		4.5	Solve problems using $\frac{V_P}{V_S} = \frac{N_P}{N_S}$ (equation given).
		4.6	Solve problems using $I_P V_P = I_S V_S$ (equation given) for 100% efficiency.
		4.7	Describe how transformers are used in the transmission of electricity across large distances.
		4.8	Explain why the power loss along transmission wires is less when the voltage is higher.

8 Thermal Physics			
Aim			
The aim of this subject content is to describe the different states of matter, explain how thermal energy is transferred and how we can reduce that transfer, and how the amount of internal energy affects a substance.			
Learning Outcomes - The learner will:		Assessment Criteria - The learner can:	
1	Understand the states of matter and the transitions between them.	1.1	Draw diagrams of the particle arrangements in solids, liquids, and gases.
		1.2	Describe the particle arrangement and motion in solids, liquids, and gases
		1.3	Define the term 'Density'.
		1.4	Solve problems using $\rho = \frac{m}{v}$.
		1.5	Outline an experiment to find the density of an object with a complicated shape.
		1.6	Explain the relative densities of solids, liquids, and gases in terms of particle arrangements. {The special case of ice is not needed}
		1.7	Define the state change terms 'Melt' [solid->liquid], 'Freeze' [liquid->solid], 'Evaporate' [liquid->gas], 'Condense' [gas->liquid], 'Sublimate' [solid->gas], and 'Deposit' [gas->solid].
		1.8	Explain why state changes are physical changes and not chemical changes.
2	Understand the changes in internal energy as a substance is heated or cooled.	2.1	State that the energy stored in a chemical bond is negative (you are required to put energy into the bond in order to break it).
		2.2	State that 'Internal Energy' is the energy stored in the chemical bonds (P.E.) and motion of the particles (K.E.) in a substance.
		2.3	Describe how heating a system increases its internal energy.
		2.4	State that the temperature of a gas is proportional to the average kinetic energy of the gas molecules.
		2.5	Explain why heating a system either increases its temperature or changes its state.
		2.6	Define the term 'Specific Heat Capacity (of a substance in a specific state)' as the energy required to increase the temperature of 1kg of a substance by 1°C.

		2.7	Define the term 'Specific Latent Heat (of a substance in a specific state)' as the energy required to change the state of 1kg of a substance.
		2.8	Solve problems using $\Delta E = mc\Delta T$, where c is the Specific Heat Capacity (equation given).
		2.9	Solve problems using $\Delta E = mL$, where L is the Specific Latent Heat, (equation given).
		2.10	Outline an experiment to calculate the Specific Heat Capacity of a liquid.
3	Understand the relationship between pressure, volume and temperature of an ideal gas.	3.1	Recall that an 'Ideal Gas' as a simple model of a gas that allows us to create equations that describe its behaviour, and that most gases behave like an ideal gas.
		3.2	Explain how the pressure on the walls of a container is the result of collisions between the gas molecules and the wall.
		3.3	State that the force on a surface due to the pressure of the gas is directed at right angles (normal) to the surface.
		3.4	Explain the relationship between pressure and temperature at constant volume (qualitative*).
		3.5	Explain the relationship between pressure and volume at constant temperature (qualitative*).
		3.6	Explain the relationship between volume and temperature at constant pressure (qualitative*). {The derivation of $PV=nRT$ is not necessary. $PV=nRT$ will not be used for calculation, and it is not expected to be known}.
		3.7	Solve problems using $PV = \text{constant}$ (equation given)
		3.8	Explain how doing work on a gas can increase its temperature.

4	Understand how thermal energy flows from one place to another.	4.1	Describe the difference between 'Heat' and 'Temperature'
		4.2	Explain the process of heat transfer by Conduction.
		4.3	Explain the process of heat transfer by Convection.
		4.4	Explain the process of heat transfer by Radiation.
		4.5	Explain the process of heat transfer by Evaporation.
		4.6	Explain how each type of heat transfer can be prevented or reduced.
5	Understand black body radiation.	5.1	State the effect of surface colour and texture on the absorption, emission, and reflection of radiation.
		5.2	Define a 'Black Body' as an ideal object that absorbs all radiation that falls on it and emits all frequencies of radiation.
		5.3	State that the radiation emitted by a black body is a characteristic of its temperature.
		5.4	Sketch the emission graph of a black body.
		5.5	Explain that the energy emitted and absorbed by a body in thermal equilibrium with its surroundings is balanced.

9 Nuclear			
Aim			
Nuclear processes power the Sun, create electricity, and have many other uses in our modern world. The aim of this subject content is to describe the internal structure of the atom, explain how energy can be released by nuclear processes, and explain the uses and hazards of radiation.			
Learning Outcomes - The learner will:		Assessment Criteria - The learner can:	
1	Understand the composition of the atom.	1.1	Describe the structure of an atom.
		1.2	State the typical size of atoms, molecules and nuclei (order of magnitude).
		1.3	Describe how the accepted model of the atom has changed over time.
		1.4	Explain how Rutherford's Gold Foil experiment provides evidence for the nucleus.
		1.5	State that electrons inside an atom have specific energy levels they can be in.
		1.6	Describe how the electrons move between energy levels as they absorb and emit energy.
		1.7	State that electrons that gain enough energy will leave their atoms, and that that loss of electrons changes those atoms into ions.
2	Understand nuclear terms.	2.1	Define the term 'Isotopes' as nuclei with the same number of protons but a different number of neutrons.
		2.2	Define the term 'Radiation' as energy or particles emitted by a source in all directions.
		2.3	Define the term 'Radioactive decay' as a change in the nucleus (of an atom) that causes radiation to be emitted.
		2.4	Define the term 'Radioactive' (Substance) as (a substance that is) undergoing radioactive decay.
		2.5	Define the term 'Half-life' as the time it takes (on average) for half of the nuclei in a radioactive substance to decay.
		2.6	Define the term 'Background radiation' as the radiation that is not produced by the source under consideration.

3	Understand radioactive decay.	3.1	Explain that radioactive nuclei are unstable and undergo radioactive decay by emitting radiation.
		3.2	State that unstable nuclei can emit alpha particles, beta particles, neutrons, or electromagnetic radiation (gamma-rays).
		3.3	List the properties of each type of nuclear radiation (what they are, relative charge, relative mass).
		3.4	List sources of background radiation.
		3.5	Outline an experiment to demonstrate the how the amount of gamma radiation varies with distance from the source, taking background radiation into account.
		3.6	Explain the changes in the nucleus when radiation is emitted.
		3.7	Use nuclear notation to write balanced equations for radioactive decay.
		3.8	Explain how radiation can cause the ionisation of atoms they interact with.
		3.9	State the relative penetration and ionisation power of alpha, beta and gamma radiation.
		3.10	Outline an experiment to determine the type of radiation emitted from a source, taking background radiation into account.
		3.11	Calculate the half-life of a radioactive material using data tables or graphs. {Simple multiples only}
		3.12	Describe how to correct for background radiation when measuring the activity of a radioactive source.
		3.13	Calculate the activity of a radioactive source by correcting for background radiation.
		3.14	Calculate the amount of radioactive material left after a whole number of half-lives.
4	Understand nuclear fission and nuclear fusion.	4.1	Describe the process of induced nuclear fission.
		4.2	Explain how the release of multiple neutrons during a fission event leads to a chain reaction.
		4.3	Describe the function of the moderator and control rods in a nuclear fission reactor.

		4.4	Describe the process of nuclear fusion.
		4.5	Use nuclear notation to write balanced equations for nuclear fission and nuclear fusion.
		4.6	Compare and contrast nuclear fission and nuclear fusion.
5.	Understand the hazards and applications associated with nuclear processes.	5.1	Explain the difference between contamination and irradiation.
		5.2	Compare and contrast the relative danger of ionising radiation and radioactive material.
		5.3	Describe the danger associated with ionising radiation.
		5.4	Explain the dangers of associated with radioactive material, and how they depend on the half-life of the material.
		5.5	Describe uses for each type of ionising radiation.
		5.6	Explain what sort of source is best for a given application in terms of the penetrating power of the radiation and the half-life of the source.
		5.7	Outline how Carbon-14 can be used to find out how old an object is.
		5.8	Explain why Carbon dating is limited to the last 50,000 years.

10	Space		
Aim			
Space is the final frontier. The aim of this subject content is to describe our solar system, the life-cycle of stars and how the universe has changed over time.			
Learning Outcomes - The learner will:		Assessment Criteria - The learner can:	
1	Understand the structure and motion of the solar system.	1.1	Define the term 'Solar system' as a collection of moons, planets, asteroids and comets orbiting a star.
		1.2	Define the term 'Galaxy' as a collection of stars and solar systems held together by gravity.
		1.3	Compare and Contrast the main features of the Solar System – The Sun, Planets, Moons, Comets, Asteroids, and Artificial Satellites.
		1.4	Explain that an orbit is an example of circular motion where the force towards the centre is provided by gravity.
		1.5	Explain why, for a stable orbit, the velocity of a satellite must constantly change while its speed stays the same.
		1.6	Explain why changing the speed of the satellite will change the radius of its orbit.
2	Understand the life cycle of a star.	2.1	State that nuclear fusion requires high densities and temperatures.
		2.2	Describe the formation of a main sequence star (nebula -> main sequence).
		2.3	Explain how the balance of gravitational forces and the energy produced via fusion produces a stable star.
		2.4	State that fusing Helium or larger nuclei requires much higher temperatures than fusing Hydrogen.
		2.5	Describe the progression of a low mass main sequence star (main sequence -> white dwarf).
		2.6	Describe the progression of a high mass main sequence star (main sequence -> neutron star or black hole).
		2.7	Label the points in a star's life cycle on a Hertzsprung-Russell diagram.

3	Understand the evidence for the expansion of the Universe.	3.1	Explain the doppler effect's effect on observed electromagnetic radiation.
		3.2	Explain what 'Red-shift' and 'Blue-shift' mean.
		3.3	State that light from all distant galaxies is red-shifted, and that the amount of red-shift is proportional to their distance from Earth.
		3.4	Explain how the red-shift of galaxies is evidence that the Universe is expanding, and that they are unlikely to be just moving away from us.
		3.5	Explain that an expanding universe suggests that in the far past all matter was in one small place (The 'Big Bang' theory).

APPENDIX

MATHEMATICAL REQUIREMENTS

Calculators may be used in all parts of the examination.

Candidates should be able to:

1. Complete equations involving addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division
2. Calculate percentages
3. Calculate percentage change
4. Manipulate a range of formula to identify the unknown variable.
5. Carry out unit conversions
6. Judge appropriate orders of magnitude and scale
7. Calculate surface area and volume of a range of shapes circle, square, rectangle and triangle
8. Estimate values based on trends / sequences
9. Apply standard form to data
10. Able to sufficiently round data correctly
11. Provide answers to significant figures
12. Present values in line with equipment measurements e.g., 1.1cm^3 for a burette
13. Calculate energy efficiency
14. Calculate mean, mode and median
15. Calculate probability
16. Understand ratios.

SAFETY IN THE LABORATORY

Candidates should be able to:

1. Identify relevant hazards and associated risks of equipment used
2. Identify relevant hazards and associated risks chemicals used
3. Carry out practical procedures carefully and thoroughly applying good practice
4. Individual core practical hazards and risks can be found at <https://www.cleapss.org.uk/> (Members only)

The safety of candidates and staff are the responsibility of the centre involved, full guidance can be found on <https://www.cleapss.org.uk/> (Members only).

FORMULA

Motion

For constant acceleration: $v^2 = u^2 + 2as$

Forces

Pressure due to a column of liquid: $P = \rho gh$

Energy

Energy stored in a spring: $\Delta E = \frac{1}{2}kx^2$

Magnetism

Force on a current carrying conductor: $F = BIL$

Conservation of energy across a transformer: $I_p V_p = I_s V_s$

Transformer equation: $\frac{V_p}{V_s} = \frac{N_p}{N_s}$

Thermal Physics

Specific Heat Capacity: $\Delta E = mc\Delta T$

Specific Latent Heat: $\Delta E = mL$

Gas at constant temperature: $PV = \text{constant}$