A-Level Physics

EXAMINATION BOARD (Edexcel) Entry requirement: 6+ in iGCSE Physics

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

Edexcel IAS and IAL-Level Physics builds on the skills acquired at Edexcel IGCSE (or equivalent) level. The syllabus includes the main theoretical concepts which are fundamental to the subject, a section on some current applications of physics, and a strong emphasis on advanced practical skills. Practical skills are assessed throughout the course with around 16 core practical's and a number of supplementary investigations. The emphasis throughout is on the understanding of concepts and the application of physics ideas in novel contexts as well as on the acquisition of knowledge.

METHOD OF ASSESSMENT

AS

- Units 1 and 2 – Exams: January/June, Externally Assessed Written Papers, 1hr 30mins, 80 marks, 40% final IAS grade and 20% final IAL grade each.
- Unit 3 – Exam: June, Externally Assessed **Alternative to Practical Written Paper,** 1hr 20mins, 50 marks, 20% final IAS grade and 10% final IAL grade.

A2

- Unit 4 – Exam: January/June, Externally Assessed Written Paper, 1hr 45mins, 90 marks, 40% final IA2 grade and 20% final IAL grade.
- Unit 5 – Exam: January/June, Externally Assessed Written Paper, 1hr 45mins, 90 marks, 40% final IA2 grade and 20% final IAL grade.
- Unit 6 – Exam: June, Externally Assessed **Alternative to Practical Written Paper**, 1hr 20mins, 50 marks, 20% final IA2 grade and 10% final IAL grade.

Units 1, 2, 4 and 5 Written Exam Papers will consist of objective, structured, short answered and practical questions and will also cover *How Science Works*. Units 3 and 6 Alternative to Practical Written Exam Papers will assess students' knowledge and understanding of experimental procedures and techniques covered in practical's.

SKILLS TAUGHT

Your thinking will become more creative and dynamic. Through practical work you will acquire an inquisitive mind, constantly questioning why things happen the way they do. Your investigative and analytical skills will develop by linking weird and wonderful theories through investigations and research leaving a fuller and richer understanding of the world around you!

CAREERS OPTIONS

Physics A level is required for Medical and Engineering Degrees. First degrees in Physics (e.g. Particle Physics, Quantum Physics); Engineering (e.g., civil, chemical, instrument, electrical, mechanical); Opthalmics, Sound Engineering. New fields such as Biophysics.