

World class thinking. World class achieving.

St Mary's College

PHYSICS (AQA)

Pre-course reading and guidance





A LEVEL Physics

WHY SHOULD I CHOOSE PHYSICS?

- › Physics is a wonderful science that gives you the opportunity to go into many areas including dentistry, veterinary science, radioactivity and medicine. The course is delivered by members of staff that have a great deal of expertise in delivering the subject. Group sizes are normally a maximum of twenty five pupils. Studying A-level physics doesn't restrict your options, it expands them. As well as being needed for many careers in science and engineering the skills and knowledge that you can develop by studying physics keeps the door open to doing just about everything else.

WHAT IS THE COURSE STRUCTURE LIKE?

- › The course is a **two year** course. It consists of **three exams**. Papers 1 and 2 are worth 34% of the qualification with Paper 3 being worth 32%. There is no coursework.



A LEVEL Physics Exams (sat in Y13)

Paper	Topics	Weighting (%)	Time (hours)
1	Periodic Motion	34	2
2	Thermal Physics	34	2
3	Practical skills and data analysis and astrophysics.	32	2

Exam Syllabus for Physics:
<https://bit.ly/2R1p1Mr>

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A LEVEL Physics Course Texts (Year 12)

You will be loaned the following text book in Y12:

- AQA Physics: A Level Year 1 and AS by Jim Breithaupt

Additionally, you will have the opportunity to purchase the following revision guide:

- CGP A-Level Physics: AQA Year 1 & AS Complete Revision & Practice with Online Edition

A LEVEL Physics Further Reading (Year 12)



Books

- › **TOP PICK - Mastering Essential GCSE Physics: Isaac Physics Skills by Anton Machacek**
- › A short History of Nearly Everything - Bill Bryson
- › Why don't penguins' feet freeze? – NewScientist
- › The Grand Design – Stephen Hawkin and Leonard Mlodinow
- › Newton – Peter Ackroyd
- › The Quantum Universe: Everything that can happen does happen – Brian Cox and Jeff Forshaw

Magazines/journals

- › Physics World (online subscription)
- › Scientific American (online subscription)
- › New Scientist (online subscription and available from newsagents)

Websites

- › www.iop.org
- › www.sixtysymbols.com
- › www.physicsworld.com
- › <http://home.web.cern.ch/topics/large-hadron-collider>

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Any further questions?



Contact details of lead teachers of Physics:

speach@smchull.org Mr S Peach

cmacrae@smchull.org Mr C Macrae

We also offer **Applied** Science as a Level 3 BTEC National.

Please see the relevant pre-reading guidance for further details.