

PHYSICS

Examination Board: Edexcel

Why study Physics?

Physics is for the curious, those who want to know HOW? WHY? It is fun to study and yet provides a challenge. Present students in the Hardenhuish Sixth Form say that it really is fun, that they learn interesting things and can make sense of the world around them more. They say that everyone they talk to outside school admires them for taking physics because they think it's hard (it isn't)!

Where does it lead?

Physics is an increasingly valued entry qualification to a wide variety of fields including those outside the traditional fields of engineering and physical science. Recent students of Physics A Level at Hardenhuish have gone on to university and work in physics and engineering, veterinary science, medicine, geographical and business studies, law and accountancy.

Course Content

Physics at Hardenhuish is taught following the Edexcel Specification. This allows students to relate the physics they are learning in class to their own experience in the real world. The course is taught by two teachers. Lessons are typically very hands-on with regular practical demonstrations and student practicals to allow students to experience physics in action.

Course units include:

- Working as a Physicist
- Mechanics
- Electric Circuits
- Further Mechanics
- Electric and Magnetic Fields
- Nuclear and Particle Physics
- Materials
- Waves
- Thermodynamics
- Space
- Nuclear Radiation
- Gravitational Fields
- Oscillations

Course Assessment

The course will be assessed with three examinations at the end of the course:

- **Paper 1 (105 minutes, 30%):** Working as a Physicist, Mechanics, Electric Circuits, Further Mechanics, Electric and Magnetic Fields, Nuclear and Particle Physics.
- **Paper 2 (105 minutes, 30%):** Materials, Waves and Particle Nature of Light, Thermodynamics, Space, Nuclear Radiation, Gravitational Fields, Oscillations.
- **Paper 3 (150 minutes, 40%):** General and Practical Principles in Physics. This paper covers all topics across both years. Half of the paper will cover conceptual and theoretical understanding of experimental methods, drawing on experience during 16 core practical investigations.

**For further information,
please contact Mrs Murphy**

