Supporting students of A-level Physics at Toot Hill College

A level Physics gives students the opportunity to explore the phenomena of the universe and to look at theories that explain what is observed. This subject combines practical skills with theoretical ideas to develop descriptions of the physical universe. Students learn about everything from kinematics to cosmology and many recent developments in fascinating topics, such as particle physics. The subject allows students to study a large variety of Physical processes with both a qualitative and quantitative approach and links to a variety of other subjects such as Biology, Chemistry, Maths and Engineering.

**Department staff:**

Head of Subject– Mr J. Lang – jlang@toothillschool.co.uk

Lead Teacher for Year 12 & 13 – Mr S. Lawrence – Slawrence@toothillschool.co.uk

Teacher of Year 12 and 13 – Mr D. Sandiford - DSandiford@novaeducationtrust.net

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| Subject  | Exam board | Course title and code | Structure  | Key dates | Final exams |
| Physics | AQA | 7408 A Level Physics | **Year 12****1** Measurements and their errors**2** Particles and radiation**3** Waves**4** Mechanics and materials**5** Electricity**Year 13****6** Further mechanics and thermal physics**7** Fields and their consequences**8** Nuclear physics**9** Astrophysics | **Internal assessments:**Year 12 - November – 2 x 45 minute mock papers Year 12 June – full AS Level style exams consisting of 2 x 1 hour 30 minutes (AS paper 1 and 2)Year 13 – November – 1 x 2 hours (A-Level Paper) with a mix of mainly year 12, and all year 13 content covered so far.Year 13 – March – A Level Paper 1 and Paper 2. 2 x 2 hour papers (completed in venues)Paper 3 (2 hours) mock completed in lesson | Year 13 June examsConfirmed (2024):**Paper 1** – 24th May 2024**Paper 2**– 6th June 2024**Paper 3** – 17th June 2024**Practical Endorsement (non exam)** – 15th May 2024 |

**Frequently asked questions**

1. Where can I find past papers and mark schemes?
2. You can find all past paper questions, mark schemes and examiners reports here: <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/as-and-a-level/physics-7407-7408/assessment-resources>
3. Does my student know where to access guidance when answering exam questions?
* The AQA website also has examiner reports that students will find useful in understanding common misconceptions: <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/as-and-a-level/physics-7407-7408/assessment-resources>
* In class, we complete regular assessments and exam questions. Students have guidance on how to answer these exam questions in their assessment books which they can use as part of their revision in the atrium during private study time.
1. What happens if my student has gaps in their knowledge due to absence?
* All resources are also uploaded on to the files section of teams regularly. Students can catch up with any work if they are absent using these resources.
* Students can use useful websites such as PMT <https://www.physicsandmathstutor.com/physics-revision/> , A level physics online <https://www.alevelphysicsonline.com/> )
* All students also have an **UPLEARN** account where they can watch summary videos, read key content and practice exam questions for all the topics in Physics. **Students are to use this resource every week and progress is monitored. This is not optional**
* If students are unsure, they can also ask their classroom teacher.
1. What resources are recommended to support my student?
* Textbooks and revision guides for Physics which can be bought new or second hand from amazon. Students have been signposted to the books they are recommended to buy if they would like to.
* Revision lists and power points on the file’s sections of teams
* All students also have an UPLEARN account where they can watch summary videos, read key content and practice exam questions for all the topics in chemistry.
* Exam practice questions should be completed at home regularly to develop key exam skills.
1. What else can I do to support my student at home?
* Parents/carers could direct students to use their revision lists, or download exam practice questions from the AQA website.
* Parents/carers could also test their knowledge of key concepts by using flash cards.
* Parents/carers could encourage students to complete a number of hours of UPLEARN a week.
1. How can I help with revision?
* Encourage your student to access the revision homework tasks mentioned above. If you are able to take part in quizzing your student (if they have made flashcards or are using online quizzes), this will give them some variation to their revision and works well as a revision technique.
* Encouraging your student to focus on the areas of the courses that they feel less confident with will also be beneficial.
* Encourage students to complete a number of hours of UPLEARN a week.
1. What can I do if I need more support or my student is needing more support?
* Please contact classroom teacher or head of faculty to arrange a meeting and devise a structured revision plan.