Fundamentals

Belfairs Academy

Physics

Year 12

Knowledge	Skills	
Scientific working:		
I know the SI units and derived units.	I apply these consistently within calculations to the correct quantities.	
I know the commonly used power prefixes	I use these with appropriate symbols and index in calculations.	
Mechanics:		
I understand the differences between vector and scalar quantities	I can use this to calculate motion equations and interpret motion graphs.	
I understand resultant forces.	I can resolve vectors.	
I can recall the four kinematics equations.	I can use these to calculate unknowns.	
I understand the principle of moments.	I can calculate the moment of a force and find the centre of gravity of an object.	
I can recall Newton's laws of motion.	I can explain the acceleration of objects I can use Newton's second law in calculations I can identify pairs of forces in Newton's third law.	
I understand the principle of energy conservation.	I can calculate transfers of energy and energy exchanges in terms of gravitational potential and kinetic energy.	
I understand the link between work, energy and power.	I can calculate work done, power and efficiency.	
I understand the concept of momentum.	I can calculate momentum and gain or loss of momentum.	
Electric Circuits: I understand what an electric current is and the relationship between current, charge, energy and potential difference and resistance.	I can make calculations with these quantities and apply them to practical laboratory work.	
I understand conduction and resistance in terms of movement of electrons.	I can calculate the drift velocity of conduction electrons in metals. I can describe an investigation and make calculations of internal resistance.	
I recognise series, parallel and potential divider circuits.	I can show the relationship between I and V in these circuits in calculations and in practical work.	



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Physics

I understand the relationship between work and power in electric circuits.	I can make calculations of work, power, and efficiency in electric circuits.
Fluids: I understand density and upthrust	I can calculate density and upthrust using the correct equations.
I understand laminar flow and turbulent flow	I can apply this to explain real-life examples of when these need to be reduced.
I understand viscosity and viscous drag.	I can relate this viscosity to temperature. I can use the equation for viscous drag in calculations and laboratory investigations.
Materials: I understand Hooke's law	I can investigate and calculate elastic strain energy and interpret for-extension graphs.
I understand the tensile / compressive stress and tensile / compressive strain. Waves:	I can calculate the Young modulus. I can interpret stress / strain graphs.
I understand amplitude, frequency, wavelength and period and the relationship between them.	I can investigate the speed of sound and explain the use of pulse-echo techniques.
I understand the difference between longitudinal and transverse waves.	I can interpret graphs, molecule diagrams and earthquake vibrations in terms of these waves.
I know what is meant by wavefront, superposition and phase.	I can interpret graphical representations of these. I can use radians and degrees to measure phase.
I can explain coherent waves and standing waves.	I can identify nodes and antinodes. I can use the equation for the speed of transverse waves. I can investigate the factors which affect frequency of standing waves.
I understand diffraction and the factors which affect it.	I can describe an experiment to observe diffraction effects.
I understand wave interference.	I can interpret the relationship between phase difference and path difference. I can investigate two-source interference.



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Optics:	
I understand what refraction is.	I know how to measure the refractive index of a solid material.
	I can use the Snell's law equation.
I can explain total internal reflection in terms of	I can investigate total internal reflection using prisms.
reflection, transmission and critical angle.	I can calculate the critical angle.
I understand how lenses focus rays of light. I understand the terms focal length and power.	I can use the equations for the power of a lens and combinations of twin lenses.
	I can investigate the path of rays through lenses in the laboratory.
	I can use the lens formula to calculate magnification.
I understand what is meant by plane polarisation.	I can explain how to investigate stresses in structures.
Quantum Physics: I can describe EM radiation in terms of photons and waves.	I can calculate the energy of photons of EM radiation.
I can explain the photoelectric effect and the evidence for it.	I can make experimental observations and explain these. I can use the photoelectric effect equation.
I can explain evidence for the wave nature of electrons.	I can use the de Broglie equation. I can interpret two-slit electron interference experiments.
I understand atomic line spectra.	I can interpret energy level diagrams. I can interpret the frequency of radiation emitted or absorbed in electron energy transition.