

Physics Autumn Term		Curriculum Checkpoints: What do students know and what can they do?				YT Clips	Further guidance
Year 12							
Summative Comment		Developing	Securing	Mastering	Excelling		
Electromagnetic Radiation and Quantum Phenomena	Substantive Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be able to define threshold frequency and work function in relation to a metal surface and liberating photoelectrons. To appreciate that a photon is a discrete packet of energy (quantum). To be able to explain how an atom can become ionised in terms of electron excitation. To know photons are absorbed or released when electrons move energy levels. To know that electron diffraction is evidence for the wave nature of particles, and that the photoelectric effect suggests waves have a particulate nature. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be able to use and manipulate the photoelectric equations, including contexts where you are given wavelength of photons rather than frequency. To explain the gold leaf electroscope demonstration in terms of electron movement. To be able to calculate the energy released/ required when electrons relax/ become excited. To be able to explain the difference between an emission spectrum and an absorption spectrum. To be able to use de Broglie's formula to calculate the wavelength of matter particles. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be able to link the stopping potential to the work done on an electron, and appreciate that QV is equal to the kinetic energy of the most energetic electrons. To be able to explain why energy levels in an atom are negative. To be able to explain why atomic energy levels give rise to unique line spectra. To be able to explain how a fluorescent tube works. To be able to deduce the quark structure of unfamiliar/ unknown particles based on decays. To be able to explain how and why the diffraction patterns change when the momentum of a particle is changed. To be able to qualitatively and quantitatively describe what happens to a diffraction pattern when properties of the particle are changed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be able to explain why the photoelectric effect is evidence for the particulate nature of light, and link this to what would be observed if light had a wave nature. To investigate how line spectra are used in the analysis of the chemical composition of stars. Further reading around the topic might include the following ideas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To research how the photoelectric effect is used in everyday life (e.g. CAT scans, spectroscopy, PMTs etc). To know about the experimental determination of stopping potential. To research the Rydberg formula. To investigate how electron microscopes use the principle of wave-particle duality to resolve to smaller orders of magnitude than a light microscope. 	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l_7ZfMlIKhk&list=PLJqziKfk3j1m7XrZKRq3C98KxRfRQV7Kb	https://www.physicsandmathstutor.com/physics-revision/a-level-aqa/particles-and-radiation/
Electromagnetic Radiation and Quantum Phenomena	Disciplinary Knowledge		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be able to convert between J and eV, MeV, GeV 				
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Mechanics	Substantive Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be able to define a vector and a scalar. To be able to state examples of vectors and scalars. To be able to define a moment. To be able to recall formulae for velocity and acceleration from GCSE. To be able to define projectile motion. To be able to know the three principles that apply to all projectiles. To be able to state Newton's three laws of motion. To be able to explain why weight and mass are different. To be able to define terminal velocity. To be able to use the formula for momentum. To be able to define impulse. To be able to state what is meant by conservation of momentum. To be able to use formulae from GCSE to calculate work, energy, power and other associated quantities. To be able to state what is meant by energy conservation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be able to add vectors by calculation or scale drawings. To be able to label forces on a force diagram, including objects on a slope. To know that the position of the centre of mass of a regular uniform solid is at its centre. To be able to apply the three principles of projectile motion to projectile problems. To be able to state and explain where Newton's three laws are applicable in a given problem. To be able to state what happens to air resistance as speed increases. To appreciate force as the rate of change of momentum is a restatement of Newton's Second Law. To be able to state the difference between an elastic and inelastic collision. To be able to describe the energy transfers that take place within a system. To be able to complete calculations involving transfers between kinetic and gravitational potential energy stores. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be able to state the conditions for equilibrium of two or three coplanar forces acting at a point. To know to account for the weight of uniform objects in moments problems. To be able to find a resultant moment, choosing a sensible point to take moments around (usually the pivot). To be able to use and manipulate the SUVAT equations. To be able to manipulate quadratic equations in projectile motion problems. To be able to complete two step calculations involving Newton's Laws. To be able to link impact forces to the length of contact times. To be able to calculate impact forces. To be able to suggest where energy is dissipated in a system, and how to make a system more efficient. To be able to complete calculations that involve energy being transferred to the surroundings due to work done against friction. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be able to resolve vectors into components at right angles to each other. To consider the conditions for tilting and toppling objects. To be able to consider problems such as cars on banked slopes. To be able to apply ideas about projectile motion in a range of scenarios (e.g. an electron between parallel plates, an inclined board with a ball rolling down etc) To be able to complete calculations involving lifts. To be able to complete calculations involving pulleys. To be able to state and explain what happens to resistive forces acting on a system when changes take place (e.g. changes to air resistance at the top of a mountain, max speed of boat with drag systems enabled) To be able to complete momentum calculations where objects have components of velocity parallel and perpendicular to the normal to a surface. To be able to state and explain how and why energy transfers change with speed. 	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XmcYq43o_U&list=PL6oD4amsJKZ_OwO6lkaecP6dpxScw5Cf2	https://www.physicsandmathstutor.com/physics-revision/a-level-aqa/mechanics-and-materials/
		Mechanics	Disciplinary Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be able to explain the significance of velocity-time and acceleration-time graphs. To be able to explain the significance of the gradients of displacement-time and velocity-time graphs. To be able to determine g by a freefall method. To be able to interpret force-displacement graphs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be able to sketch motion graphs to represent uniform and non-uniform motion e.g. a bouncing ball. To be able to suggest sources of error when determining g by a free fall method. To be able to plot graphs accurately and calculate gradients. To be able to sketch a v-t graph for terminal velocity/ parachute, and explain each section of the graph. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be able to calculate errors and find a total percentage error of the determined value of g compared to the accepted value of g. 	
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Waves	Substantive Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To be able to label features of both longitudinal and transverse waves. ● To be able to define what a longitudinal wave and a transverse wave are. ● To be able to define what is meant by the term "progressive wave" ● To be able to state what is meant by the principle of superposition. ● To be able to sketch and label a stationary wave with nodes and antinodes. ● To be able to define path difference. ● To be able to state the conditions for coherent sources of light. ● To be able to calculate the number of slits in a diffraction grating. ● To be able to state the refractive index of air. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To be able to state examples of transverse and longitudinal waves. ● To be able to state the difference between seismic P and seismic S waves. ● To be able to explain the formation of a stationary wave on a string, in a microwave and a sound wave. ● To know what is meant by the term harmonic. ● To be able to use Snell's Law for refraction. ● To be able to complete diagrams of a path of light entering/ exiting/ travelling through different mediums. ● To know what is meant by the term "critical angle" ● To know what is meant by the term "Total Internal Reflection" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To be able to complete calculations involving frequency, time period, wavelength and wave speed. ● To be able to calculate the length of a pulse. ● To know what is meant by polarisation. ● To be able to explain how sound waves transmit energy from their source. ● To be able to predict what happens to intensity as polarising filters are rotated. ● To be able to manipulate the formula $f = \frac{v}{\lambda}$ <p>and quantitatively describe the effects when one of the variable is changed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To be able to explain constructive and destructive interference in terms of path difference/ phase difference. ● To be able to predict what would happen to diffraction patterns when aspects of the apparatus are changed (e.g. different wavelength of light used). ● To be able to predict what would be observed for diffraction of polychromatic sources (e.g. white light). ● To be able to determine the highest order maximum produced by a given diffraction grating. ● To be able to describe the structure of a step index optical fibre. ● To be able to explain the function of lagging on an optical fibre. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To be able to complete multistep calculations involving frequency, time period, wavelength and wave speed. ● To be able to explain why aerial rods need to be aligned properly to receive signals. ● To be able to state applications of polarising filters and explain why they are used. ● To be able to suggest possible sources of error for the required practical and explain the potential effects they could have on results. ● To be able to suggest how to improve accuracy and precision. ● To be able to derive $n\lambda = d \sin \theta$ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To be able to describe different types of dispersion in an optical fibre and explain their cause. ● To be able to understand the principles and consequences of pulse broadening and absorption. 	<p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fbAm5psmdKY</p>	<p>https://www.physicsandmathstutor.com/physics-revision/a-level-aqa/waves/</p>
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<p style="text-align: center;">Waves</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Disciplinary Knowledge</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be able to convert between degrees and radians. • To be able to take readings from scientific instruments (vernier calipers/micrometers) • To be able to safely carry out practical work using lasers. • To be able to complete the Young's double slit experiment. • To be able to manipulate formulae. 	<p>To be able to conduct an investigation to see how the fundamental frequency of a stretched string depends on the tension in the string.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be able to suggest possible sources of error for the required practical and explain the potential effects they could have on results. • To be able to suggest how to improve accuracy and precision. • To be able to propagate errors in Young's double slit experiment. 		
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