

Physics Curriculum Overview

Years 7 and 8

There are two main aims for pupils in their first two years of Physics at QEGS. The first is for them to build the firm foundations of knowledge and skills required for them to confidently move on to GCSE. The second is to do so in a culture designed to develop learning dispositions that will prepare them not only for future examinations, but also for the challenges of life beyond school.

The topic areas covered in years 7 and 8 are:

- Motion
- Force and Pressure
- Electricity
- Energy
- Structure of matter
- Magnetism
- Light
- Thermal energy

Practical investigations are at the heart of most lessons. The department is extremely well resourced with modern equipment that enables pupils to develop their scientific skills and thinking. These are also developed by regular home learning tasks, which may be teacher assessed, peer assessed or self-assessed depending on their nature.

More formal assessment consists of topic tests and an end of year examination.

Year 9

In year 9 pupils are expected to apply their improving learning capabilities to work of GCSE standard in preparation for key stage 4 (years 10 and 11). They start to develop an understanding of the application of mathematics to applied situations. Topics covered include atomic structure, electricity, waves and energy. Assessments throughout the year inform progress and assist pupils in their decisions regarding GCSE choices.