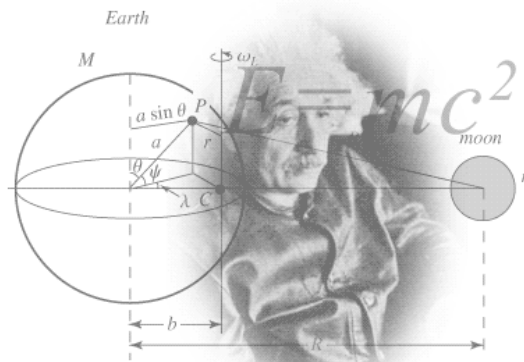


**ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE  
PHYSICS A-LEVEL**



**Introduction to Physics:**

The A-level specification has been developed for candidates who are interested in pursuing a career in physics, engineering or any other STEM related field. A-level physics is a linear course which is assessed at the end of 2 years via examination. It is accompanied by a practical endorsement which states that students are able to complete practical-based physics to a high standard. This practical endorsement is gained throughout the course via a string of experiments designed to test practical technique as well as data analysis skills.

The skills gained in studying physics include; problem solving, data analysis, mathematical modelling and experimental technique. These not only contribute towards lifelong learning but also have direct relevance to other fields such as mathematics, medicine, economics, business, computer science and programming.

At present we have 2 groups of students studying A-level physics in year 12, and 2 groups studying in year 13.

**Course Content:**

The content covered in physics has changed in the last couple of years, as has the way it is assessed. There are no longer ISA/EMPA style practical exams though out the year. Practical skills will now be assessed as part of the examination process in year 13.

Year 12	Year 13
1) Measurements and errors	1) Further mechanics
2) Particles and radiation	2) Thermal physics
3) Waves	3) Fields and their consequences
4) Mechanics and materials	4) Nuclear physics
5) Electricity	5) Astronomy

**Scheme of Assessment:**

COURSE	PAPER	DURATION	A2 WEIGHTING
A2	Paper 1 sections 1-5 (85 marks)	2hr	34%
A2	Paper 2 sections 6-8 (85 marks)	2hr	34%
A2	Paper 3 practical physics and optional topic (80 marks)	2hr	32%