

GCE Physics

Specification Addendum

Exceptional Assessment Adaptations (for 2020–2021)

This addendum should be used in conjunction with the current specification

The table below details any temporary adaptations that have been made due to public health restrictions for Summer 2021.

Please note: This applies only to candidates entering in Summer 2021

Content	Assessment	Weightings	Assessment Adaptations 2020–2021
AS 1: Forces, Energy and Electricity	1 hour 45 mins Students complete a written examination consisting of compulsory short answer questions and some that require extended writing. Externally assessed written paper	40% of AS 16% of A level	No changes
AS 2: Waves, Photons and Astronomy	1 hour 45 mins Students complete a written examination consisting of compulsory short answer questions and some that require extended writing. Externally assessed written paper	40% of AS 16% of A level	No changes
AS 3: Practical Techniques and Data Analysis	2 (1 hour) components Students complete an externally assessed test of practical skills consisting of short tasks, and a separate paper requiring the analysis of experimental results. Externally assessed	20% of AS 8% of A level	Practical skills Booklet A has been removed due to Public Health requirements. However, students will still complete Booklet B , practical skills theory.

Content	Assessment	Weightings	Assessment Adaptations 2020–2021
A2 1: Deformation of Solids, Thermal Physics, Circular Motion, Oscillations and Atomic and Nuclear Physics	2 hours Students complete a written examination consisting of compulsory short answer questions and some that require extended writing. The questions have elements of synoptic assessment, drawing together different strands of the specification. Externally assessed written paper	24% of A level	No changes
A2 2: Fields, Capacitors and Particle Physics	2 hours Students complete a written examination consisting of compulsory short answer questions and some that require extended writing. The questions have elements of synoptic assessment, drawing together different strands of the specification. Externally assessed written paper	24% of A level	No changes
A2 3: Practical Techniques and Data Analysis	2 (1 hour) components Students take an externally assessed test of practical skills, consisting of two experimental tests, and a separate paper requiring the analysis of experimental results. Externally assessed	12% of A level	Practical skills Booklet A has been removed due to Public Health requirements. However, students will still complete Booklet B , practical skills theory.

For candidates who started their GCE course in September 2019 and hope to achieve a GCE qualification level grade in Summer 2021, they will be awarded a grade based on their performance in their A2 units only.

If a candidate decides they wish to re-enter for the corresponding AS units, they will be awarded the higher of two options:

- a) the grade based on the outcome of the A2 exams; or
- b) the grade based on the outcome of the AS and A2 exams together.

Candidates who commenced their course in September 2019 and wish to re-enter AS units must enter for all AS units.

For candidates commencing their GCE course in September 2020, it is recommended that, as far as possible, the units are delivered in numerical order in case of any further disruption to the academic year.