

GCSE Physics

Specification Addendum

Exceptional Assessment Adaptations (for 2020–2021)

This addendum should be used in conjunction with the current specification

The table below shows the units available for Summer 2021 cash in and details where applicable:

- the unit eligible for omission; and
- any temporary adaptations that have been made due to public health restrictions.

Please note: This applies only to candidates who started their GCSE course in September 2019 and are cashing-in at qualification level in Summer 2021

Content	Assessment	Weightings	Assessment Adaptations 2020–2021
Unit 1: Motion, Force, Density and Kinetic Theory, Energy, and Atomic and Nuclear Physics	External written examination There are two tiers of entry. Foundation Tier: 1 hour 15 mins Higher Tier: 1 hour 30 mins Students answer compulsory structured questions that include short responses, extended writing and calculations.	37.5%	This unit will be eligible for omission for candidates cashing in for the qualification level grade in Summer 2021. This unit will still be available for any candidates wishing to be assessed in all units.
Unit 2: Waves, Light, Electricity, Magnetism, Electromagnetism and Space Physics	External written examination There are two tiers of entry. Foundation Tier: 1 hour 15 mins Higher Tier: 1 hour 30 mins Students answer compulsory structured questions that include short responses, extended writing and calculations.	37.5%	No changes

Content	Assessment	Weightings	Assessment Adaptations 2020–2021
Unit 3: Practical Skills	Booklet A Practical skills assessment Externally marked Students carry out two pre-release practical tasks in the final year of study. There are two tiers of entry. Students must take both Booklet A and Booklet B at the same tier. Foundation and Higher Tiers: 2 hours	7.5%	Candidates observe a live teacher demonstration in place of completing the experiments themselves due to public health concerns. Further guidance will follow.
	Booklet B External written examination Students answer compulsory structured questions that include short responses, extended writing and calculations, all set in a practical context. Foundation Tier: 1 hour Higher Tier: 1 hour 15 mins	17.5%	No changes

For those students who started their GCSE course in September 2019 and are due to cash in the full GCSE in Summer 2021 should they choose to sit all units of the GCSE, they will receive the higher of either:

- the grade awarded on the basis of the outcome of the required units specified by CCEA; or
- the grade awarded on the basis of the outcome of the full set of units for that qualification.

In both cases the full specification content should still be delivered.

For candidates commencing their GCSE 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.