AQA GCSE Physics – Higher Tier – 8463H: WBHS Summer 2021 Assessment Record

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The GCSE Physics CAGs have been determined using assessment evidence that covered a comprehensive range of the specification provided by the exam board and reflects all the assessment objectives.

Yr.10 data **has** been used as part of the holistic approach to awarding grades. This has been especially helpful when considering pre-pandemic performance and adjusting our teaching and learning to address any problems students faced through this extremely challenging period. The data we considered from this year comprises of end of unit tests and homework scores. Whilst GCSE Physics is a standalone qualification, there are 3 science teachers involved in teaching each student and they meet regularly to discuss and review student progress.

Contextually, our centre has achieved exceptional results in physics, particularly since the new syllabus has been examined (2018 onwards). Students are monitored closely over the 2 years however many make excellent progress towards the end of year 11 as we pull together all of the topics and fully develop the skills of our students.

Table to show predicted value added and final (awarded) value added (vs FFT50)

	Predicted VA (Feb)	**Final VA (June series)**
2017	+0.5	+0.4
2018	+0.4	+1.0
2019	+0.6	+1.0

Overall, there has been a greater weighting placed on Yr.11 assessments to reflect this progress of students across the two years of the course. This is also in line with the guidance provided by Ofqual regarding later assessments providing a better representation of a student's final grade.

Tier of entry

All students who are entered for GCSE Physics have been entered for the higher tier paper. Students were selected for the course towards the end of year 9 and among the criteria were ability and enthusiasm towards science. Therefore all students are aiming towards the highest grades and it is appropriate that they are sitting higher tier assessments.

Boundaries

Any grade boundaries generated for purposes of reflecting progress in examinations are based on the published boundaries for the exam series (if appropriate) or a direct translation of percentages to our internally produced tests. Whilst acknowledging the absolute merits of setting past-exam questions in assessing student's understanding and progress, they are designed to be fully answered at the end of two years of study. Thus, asking students in October of Y10 (for example) to answer questions designed for student in May / June of Y11 is somewhat unfair. Therefore, we moderate our grade awards based on how far through the course the students are. We aim to be informative but encouraging.

Due to this evidence covering such a broad range of the subject content, assessments have been based on exam board mark schemes and grade descriptors, and have been subject to moderation and standardisation at a teacher, departmental and whole school level we are confident the Centre Assessed Grades submitted for this course are accurate.

	Type of Assessment	Assessment Objectives			Level of Control H, M, L (Dates of standardisation)
Order of priority		AO1	AO2	AO3	
Assessment 1: Physics assessment Thursday 15th April *Topics included* *4.3 Particle Model of Matter* *4.4 Atomic Structure* *4.5 Forces* *4.6 Waves*	Higher tier examination constructed to reflect a wide range of content and all AOs. Significant amount of triple only content included. *Questions selected from June 2019 and November 2020 papers (from secure e-AQA website)*	Y	Y	Y	H In class examination taken by all students on the same day. Marking standardised on Wednesday 21st April. Mark schemes adhered to and marking sampled by head of subject.
Assessment 2: Physics assessment w/c 19th October 2020] *Topics included* *4.1 Energy* *4.2 Electricity* *4.3 Particle Model of Matter* *4.4 Atomic Structure*	Higher tier examination. *Questions taken from Paper 1 from Summer exam series 2019 (locked to students at that time).*	Y	Y		H In class examination. Tuesday training time given over to standardisation in accordance with examiners report Mark schemes adhered to and marking sampled.
Assessment 3: Physics assessment w/c 8th March *Topics included* *4.1 Energy* *4.2 Electricity* *4.4 Atomic Structure* *4.5 Forces* *4.6 Waves*	Higher tier examination. *Assessment based on lockdown work, constructed using AQA Exampro tool.*	Y	Y	Y	M In class examination completed on Microsoft forms using a tablet or phone. Partly auto marked and marking standardised.
Assessment 4:	Higher tier examination.	Y	Y		11P1 L

Physics assessment w/c 14th December *Topics included:* *4.5 Forces* *4.6 Waves*	*End of topic test constructed using AQA Exampro tool.*				Open book examination 11S1 H In class examination Mark scheme adhered to.
Compensatory considerations					
Weekly homework quizzes (September – December 2020)	*Designed to encourage development of recall of knowledge (in isolation)*	Y			H (Students tested weekly on home-learning under exam conditions in class. Marked by teacher).
End of unit tests (September 2019 – December 2020)	*Constructed using AQA Exampro tool.*	Y	Y	Y	H Mark schemes closely adhered to. Head of subject continuously checking closely for between class variation.