KS4 Physics - Exploring Space, Light and Sound

In this module students will learn about the planets in our solar system, their names, moons, atmospheric conditions and position in relation to the sun. Students will learn about the Earth, our moon and space travel. Students will learn about gravity, the stars (including our sun) and the existence of other galaxies. Students will also deepen their knowledge on sound and light, learning how they travel and how they change. Students will learn about the electromagnetic spectrum and everyday examples of the electromagnetic spectrum in action.

Students will 'work scientifically' to achieve these goals, learning the key features of scientific enquiry; observing over time, pattern seeking, identifying, classifying, investigating (fair tests) and researching.

RRS Articles:

This unit of work is linked to Articles of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Article 13 (freedom of expression)
Article 29 (goals of education)

	OU Progression Steps 5-6	OU Progression Steps 7-8	OU NC Step 1	OU NC Step 2	OU NC step 3
Subject	Identify the planets in	Identify the planets in	Name the planets in the	Name the planets in the	Name the planets in the
specific	the solar system using	the solar system using a	solar system.	solar system put them in	solar system and put
knowledge	images.	word or symbol bank.		order from the Sun	them in order from the
Space			Explain why we have	using a mnemonic.	Sun.
<u>Space</u>	Describe the	Describe the	day/night.		
	atmosphere of a given	atmosphere of a given		Explain why we have	Explain why we have
	planet using a choice of	planet using a bank of	Describe the	day/night and years.	day/night, years and
	2 symbols.	symbols.	atmosphere of a given		seasons.
			planet using images and a	Simply describe the	
	Understand the	Describe why we have	communication aid.	atmosphere of each	Suggest reasons why
	difference between	day/night using a model.		planet.	each planet has a
	day and night.	, 3	Order the phases of the	·	different atmosphere.
	, 3	Link phases of the moon	moon and name them	Describe, name and	
	Identifies phases of	to pictures to names.	using a word or symbol	order the phases of the	Name and order the
	the moon using images.		bank.	moon.	phases of the moon and
		Identify that rockets			explain why we see
		are needed to travel in	Identify and label the		different phases.
			parts of a rocket.		

	Identify that rockets are needed to travel in	space and match images to label a diagram.	Use a word or symbol	Identify, label and describe parts of a	Identify, label and explain the function of
	space.	Sequence images to	bank to create a timeline of milestones in space	rocket.	parts of a rocket.
	Sequence milestones in space travel using	create a timeline of milestones in space	travel.	Create a timeline of milestones in space	Create a timeline of past and future milestones in
	images and a template.	travel.	Understand that different planets have	travel.	space travel.
	Understand that gravity makes objects fall towards earth.	Understand that the Earth has gravity but space does not.	different gravitational field strengths. Sequence and describe	Describe the effect of gravity on Earth compared to another planet.	Explain why astronauts need zero gravity training.
	Sequence the lifecycle of a star using images and a template.	Sequence images to demonstrate the lifecycle of a star.	the lifecycle of a star.	Describe each stage of the life cycle of a star.	Knows that the lifecycle of a star takes billions of years.
Light and Sound	Describe how sound is made using concrete resources and a choice of symbols.	Describe how sound is made using key words. Know that white light is	Describe how sound is made. Know that white light is	Describe how sound is made and define amplitude and frequency.	Describe how sound is made and the difference between amplitude and frequency.
	Identify the colours in the spectrum.	made of 7 colours and name each one using a diagram.	made of 7 colours and name them in the correct order.	Know that white light is made of 7 colours and recall them in order.	Explain how we see using examples.
	Identify that we need light to see.	Explain how we see using a diagram and key symbols.	Explain how we see using a diagram and key words.	Explain how we see using key words to help.	Understand that light reflects off a mirror at the same angle it enters
	Understand that light travels in straight lines.	Understand that light travels in straight lines and that it reflects off	Understand that the electromagnetic spectrum is energy and we cannot see but it is	Know that light reflects off a mirror at the same angle it enters a mirror.	a mirror. Understand that the electromagnetic
		surfaces.	present.	Understand that the electromagnetic spectrum is energy waves that we cannot see.	spectrum is a range of different waves each with a specific function.

Subject specific skills Space	Use a model of the earth and a torch to identify day and night. Build a model rocket after demonstrations.	Use a model of the earth and a torch to identify day and night, including the earth rotating on its axis after a demonstration. Build a model rocket using visual instructions.	Use a model of the earth and a torch to identify day and night, including the earth rotating on its axis. Build a model rocket with visual and written instructions.	Use a model of the earth and a torch to identify day and night and a year. Follow written instructions to build a model rocket.	Use a model of the earth and a torch to identify day and night and a year, then start to explain seasons. Build a model rocket and evaluate how your prototype could be improved.
Subject specific skills	Make a musical instrument louder and quieter.	Make a musical instrument change volume and pitch with verbal prompts.	Make a musical instrument change volume and pitch.	Identify whether a sound has changed frequency or amplitude with verbal prompts.	Identify whether a sound has changed frequency or amplitude.
Light and sound	Create a spectrum using a prism after staff demonstrations. Shine light rays into a mirror and notice how it leaves the mirror.	Create a spectrum using a prism and visual instructions. Identify that light is reflected from a mirror after an investigation.	Create a spectrum using a prism and written instructions. Notice similarities in the angles of light into and out of a mirror after an investigation with verbal prompts.	Create a spectrum using a prism, and identify the main colour. Notice similarities in the angles of light into and out of a mirror after an investigation. Identify uses of the electromagnetic spectrum in medicine (xrays) and preventing forgery (UV light).	Create a spectrum using a prism, and identify each colour. Measure angles of light into and out of a mirror using a protractor then identify similarities and differences in results. Identify uses of each wave on the electromagnetic spectrum.
Suggested activities	Sound investigation Signal generator and oscilloscope. Electromagnetic spectrum circus of activities Making a spectrum using a prism. Measuring angle of incidence and reflection. Shining light rays into a mirror.		Order of Order of planets card sort Phases of the moon demonstration. planets/information top trumps Creating fact files / posters / presentations about each planet. Building model rockets. Timeline of space travel milestones Lifecycle of a star.		

Personal development

Problem solving

Investigations and matching exercises

Communication skills

Working as pairs in investigations, asking and answering qustions

Self-belief

Learning new skills, practising them and demonstrating them.

Self-management

Working with new equipment

Teamwork

Working as groups to solve problems or find out new information

Online resources

twinkl

CLEAPPS for risk assessments

BBC bitesize for video resources.

Evidencing Work

All work / evidence sheets need to be printed off, annotated by staff, self-assessed by pupils and stored in student folders.