why choose
Electronics
A Level
AQA
STUDENT GUIDE

That’s why A Level in Electronics is such a popular and rewarding course. It gives students a powerful grounding in all the elements of electronic design. But your course isn’t just theoretical. You’ll also get to design and build your own electronics systems.

A qualification in electronics will really take you places. Imagine yourself designing the next generation of mobile phone, or the dashboard for an all electric sports car. You could travel the world with the armed forces, or stay nearer home as a teacher.

The first year (AS) of Electronics covers all the key components that go into electronic design. Capacitors, diodes, transducers, logic gates, amplifiers... they’re all part of the toolkit that electronics designers use. You’ll also have a first year project to design and make an electronic solution to a real life problem.

In the second year you’ll step up a level to topics like microprocessors, robotics and communications systems. This will help you to decide which area of electronics really interests you. And as in the first year you’ll have a practical project so you can get to grips with a solution that you can see really working.
On your marks ...

Each year you’ll have two written papers to complete. Each paper accounts for 35% of the marks for that year. There’s a mix of short answer questions and questions where you can give a longer, more detailed answer. The remaining 30% of your marks for each year come from the practical project (your coursework).

Where will success take me?

Your A Level in electronics will be a great start for further education in electronic, computer or software engineering. You might get the bug for topics like robotics or communications and specialise in those fields. Or maybe you’d like to be a teacher, work as a research scientist, or even invent your own products. Steve Jobs - the man behind the iPod - started off by playing with electronics in his parents’ garage.

What skills will I learn?

Electronics helps develop a number of new skills:

- Working with numbers
- Working within a team
- Planning projects from concept to production
- Analysing information and acting upon it
- Using your initiative to develop new solutions.
Will it fit in my life?

Students who take Electronics find it goes well with Physics, Maths, CDT, IT, Music Technology and Media Studies. This means electronics can either be your specialist subject, or play a supporting role for other subjects.

Can’t wait to get started?

Your tutor or careers adviser are the best people to help you decide whether Electronics is the right choice for you. They will be as passionate as you to find the best subject to develop your talents!

For more info, visit

www.aqa.org.uk/qual/gce/electronics_new.php