



## Fields

### Checklist statement



I can explain the concept of a force field as a region in which a body experiences a non-contact force.

I can explain that a force field can be represented by a vector and that its direction is determined by inspection.

I can explain that force fields arise from the interaction of mass, static charge and moving charges.

I can compare gravitational and electrostatic forces, identifying similarities and differences.

I can explain that both gravitational and electrostatic forces follow inverse-square laws.

I can explain that masses always attract, whereas charges may attract or repel.

---

## Newton's Law of Gravitation

### Checklist statement



I can explain gravity as a universal attractive force acting between all matter.

I can apply  $F = \frac{Gm_1m_2}{r^2}$ , define all terms and know their standard units.

I can estimate the magnitude of gravitational forces between objects.

---

## Gravitational Field Strength

### Checklist statement

✓

I can describe a gravitational field using gravitational field lines.

I can define gravitational field strength as force per unit mass.

I can apply  $g = \frac{F}{m}$ , define all terms and know their standard units.

I can apply  $g = \frac{GM}{r^2}$  for a radial gravitational field, define all terms and know their standard units.

---

## Gravitational Potential

### Checklist statement

✓

I can define gravitational potential, including the reference of zero potential at infinity.

I can define gravitational potential difference.

I can apply  $\Delta W = m\Delta V$ , define all terms and know their standard units.

I can explain equipotential surfaces and why no work is done when moving along them.

I can apply  $V = -\frac{GM}{r}$ , define all terms and know their standard units.

I can explain the significance of the negative sign in gravitational potential.

I can interpret graphs showing how gravitational field strength and gravitational potential vary with distance.

I can apply the relationship  $g = -\frac{\Delta V}{\Delta r}$ , define all terms and know their standard units.

I can determine gravitational potential difference from the area under a graph of  $g$  against  $r$ .

---

## Orbits of Planets and Satellites

### Checklist statement

✓

I can explain how orbital speed and orbital period depend on the radius of a circular orbit.

I can explain the relationship  $T^2 \propto r^3$  for circular orbits.

I can describe the energy considerations for an orbiting satellite.

I can explain the total energy of an orbiting satellite.

I can explain escape velocity.

I can describe synchronous orbits.

I can explain the use of satellites in low Earth orbits and geostationary orbits.

I can describe the plane and radius of a geostationary orbit.