

**Physics Unit: Light**  
**What does progression of knowledge look like?**

Year	Progression of knowledge.
<b>3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• recognise that they need light in order to see things and that dark is the absence of light</li> <li>• notice that light is reflected from surfaces</li> <li>• recognise that light from the sun can be dangerous and that there are ways to protect their eyes</li> <li>• recognise that shadows are formed when the light from a light source is blocked by an opaque object</li> <li>• find patterns in the way that the size of shadows change</li> </ul>
<b>6</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• recognise that light appears to travel in straight lines</li> <li>• use the idea that light travels in straight lines to explain that objects are seen because they give out or reflect light into the eye</li> <li>• explain that we see things because light travels from light sources to our eyes or from light sources to objects and then to our eyes</li> <li>• use the idea that light travels in straight lines to explain why shadows have the same shape as the objects that cast them</li> </ul>
<b>Key Stage 3 (7-9)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe what a vacuum is and state how light waves travel</li> <li>• Calculate the speed of light and compare it to the speed of sound</li> <li>• Describe the similarities and differences between light waves and waves in matter</li> <li>• Explain what happens to light when it hits different surfaces.</li> <li>• Describe how to construct and label a ray diagram in reflection.</li> <li>• Compare specular reflection and diffuse scattering.</li> <li>• Describe how an image is formed in a mirror</li> <li>• Use a ray model to explain imaging in mirrors, the pinhole camera, the refraction of light and action of convex lens in focusing (qualitative);</li> <li>• Name the parts of a camera and describe their function.</li> <li>• Name the parts of the eye and describe their function.</li> <li>• Compare the pinhole camera and the eye in terms of image formation</li> <li>• Explain what happens to the energy transferred by light to a camera or the eye.</li> <li>• State what the different frequencies of light within white light represent.</li> <li>• Describe how a prism can be used to disperse white light.</li> <li>• Explain how a coloured filter works.</li> <li>• Explain the appearance of coloured objects with different coloured incident light.</li> </ul>