## **KS4 Physics: Forces & Interactions**

Keywords/ Definitions	
Keyword	Meaning
Scalar	A physical quantity that can be measured only has a magnitude or size.
Vector	Describes a movement from one point to another that has both direction and magnitude (size).
Contact Force	The forces that act between two objects that are touching
Non-Contact Force	The forces between two objects that are not physically touching
Resultant Force	A single force that has the same effect as two or more forces acting together.
Magnitude	The size of a physical quantity (normally shown as a number)
Compression	A shortening in length of an object
Extension	Increase in length, e.g. as a result of being pulled.
Spring Constant	A measure of the stiffness of a spring up to its limit elasticity.
Displacement	The distance from the start of the journey to the end in a straight line.
Speed	The distance travelled in a known time period
Proportional	When two quantities have the same ratio or relative size (symbol $\propto$ )

$$= 90 \text{ N to the right}$$

$$ION \longrightarrow 30 \text{ N}$$

$$= 20 \text{ N to the right}$$

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$$A \xrightarrow{\text{Distance}} B$$

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$$Ruler \longrightarrow B$$

10N

## Numeracy

60N

## Equations

A bike travels 10m in a time of 5 seconds, what speed is it travelling?

 $10 \text{meters} \div 5 \text{seconds} = 2 \text{m/s}$ v = s ÷ t

A force of 3 N is applied to a spring. The spring stretches reversibly by 0.15 m, calculate spring constant?

 $F = kxe \rightarrow k = F \div e \rightarrow 3 \div 0.15 = 20N/m$ 

A spring has a spring constant, (k), of 3 N/m. It is stretched until it is extended by 50 cm. Calculate the elastic potential energy?

 $E_{e} = \frac{1}{2} \times k \times e^{2} \rightarrow E_{e} = \frac{1}{2} \times 3 \times 0.5^{2} \rightarrow E_{e} = 1.5 \times 0.25 \rightarrow 0.25$ E<sub>o</sub> = 0.375J

## **Key Facts**

- Forces are measured in Newtons (N)
- Inelastic deformation is when an object does not return to its original length after extension or compression.
- Elastic deformation is when an object returns to its original length after extension or compression.
- Limit of proportionality refers to the point beyond which Hooke's law is no longer true when stretching a material.
- A fluid can be a gas or a liquid.
- Work done on a spring equals the elastic potential energy (provided the spring is not inelastically deformed).
- A vector quantity may be represented by an arrow. The length of the arrow represents the magnitude, and the direction of the arrow the direction of the vector quantity.