Competition Terms & Conditions

Please carefully review these Competition Terms & Conditions before entering. There is a 'Definitions' section at the end of the document.

Responsibilities and Agreements

By entering the Competition, the School/College agrees to:

- Submit an entry application from a Team of up to 3 current Year 12 students.
- Submit completed consent form for participation in the competition from a parent or legal guardian of each Team member taking part in the competition who is under the age of 18 at the date of the competition submission. The form includes student consent too.

If a team is shortlisted as finalists, the School/College agrees to:

- Make best endeavours to attend the event for finalists at King's College, Cambridge. The finalist prizes will only be awarded if the Team attends the Prize Event.
- Have a member of teaching staff accompany the competition Team of students at King's College on 1 and 2 April 2026 for the finalists' event. Teaching staff must be DBS checked and will have primary responsibility for the students while in Cambridge. Meals and overnight accommodation will be provided free of charge. Funding will be provided for reasonable travel expenses to Cambridge by the Team plus a member of teaching staff.
- Where the Team is less than 3 students, the school/college will be encouraged to bring additional students studying STEM subjects to the King's College event, up to a maximum of 3. They will attend the activities provided during the residential and offer moral support during the Prize Event. They will also be encouraged to participate in the Q&A at the Prize Event.
- Provide King's College, Cambridge and Physics Partners with the necessary personal details of all participants in the Prize Event to enable the College to make suitable arrangements. These will include, but are not limited to, confirmation of consent to participate by a parent or legal guardian, and the names, dietary requirements, and access needs of any participants.
- Provide Physics Partners with invoices for the reasonable cost of travel to and from Cambridge for up to three students and member of teaching staff, to enable reimbursement to be made. Reimbursement must be made before 31 August 2026.
- No prizes (Amazon vouchers and funding for Physics equipment) will be given for teams not in attendance at the King's College event.

If a team is offered the Grand Prize, the School/College agrees to:

- Make best endeavours to arrange a trip to visit CERN for the winning Team or, if the winning Team is less than 3 students up to 3 students. This will include arranging travel and 2 nights of accommodation over the 2026 summer holiday.
- Physics Physics will facilitate introductions to academics at CERN and will provide guidance on planning the trip.
- Ensure that at least one member of school/college teaching staff accompany the Team on the trip to CERN. Teaching staff must be DBS checked and will have responsibility for the students during the trip to CERN.
- Ensure that adequate insurance arrangements are in place for the trip for all participants of the grand prize.
- Provide Physics Partners with invoices for the reasonable cost of travel, hotel accommodation and meals for the Team. Reimbursement must be made before 31 August 2026.
- If the school do not commit, before 17 April 2026 to taking the Team to CERN then the prize will be offered to the runner-up.
- It may be possible for parents to accompany pupils. The funding will cover a maximum of 6 people.

By entering the Competition, the Team agrees to:

- Create and submit a video of approximately 3 minutes, addressing the Competition question 'What lights up your love of physics?'. Entries will be evaluated based on content, creativity, and clarity. Videos must be transferred to competition@physicspartners.com via WeTransfer.com, as per the competition guidance, with a maximum duration of 3 minutes and 30 seconds.
- Ensure videos are created and edited only by the team members.
- Attend the Prize event presentation at King's College, Cambridge, if shortlisted and subject to the school/college being able to support the visit. This is an overnight event and includes presenting the video and answering panel questions.
- Participate in the Grand Prize – a two-night trip to CERN if the Team win the competition and subject to their school/college being able to arrange and support the trip. The trip will need to be completed before 31 August 2026.

Physics Partners reserve the right to:

- Use all shortlisted video entries on social media and other promotional channels owned by Physics Partners where consent by the student, a parent or legal guardian and the school/college has been given.

- Take photographs at the Prize Event at King's College, Cambridge for use on social media and other promotional channels belonging to Physics Partners, where consent by the student, a parent or legal guardian and the school/college has been given.
- Use photographs of the winning Team (provided by their school/college) taken during their trip to/from CERN and at CERN for use on social media and other promotional channels owned by Physics Partners, where consent by the student, a parent or legal guardian and the school/college has been given.
- Extend the competition closing date if justified by unforeseen circumstances.
- Determine whether to reimburse any expenses incurred by the winning school/college team if a trip to CERN is booked and subsequently cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances. Decisions will be made considering the circumstances, taking into account insurance arrangements made by the school/college.
- In the event of unforeseen circumstances, Physics Physics reserves the right to cancel the competition.

Timeline:

- Competition entries accepted until 24 February 2026 at 11.59 pm.
- All shortlisted Teams will be notified by email, to the teacher's email address on the application form, before 3 March 2026.
- The top 10 teams will be invited to participate in the Prize Event on 1 and 2 April 2026 at King's College, Cambridge, (includes overnight stay) and must confirm their attendance before 9 March 2026.
- The school must confirm their acceptance of the Grand Prize before 17 April 2026.

Details of the Prizes:

- 10 finalist Teams will be invited to attend the Prize Event at King's College, Cambridge. Single entry finalists will receive £400 in Amazon vouchers. Teams of two or three will receive a total of £600 in Amazon vouchers to be split equally between the number of team members. The school or college of each finalist team will receive either £500 in funding for physics equipment or £500 worth of equipment, as determined by Physics Partners. This will apply to all finalists. If schools are receiving the funding, they will be required to invoice Physics Partners before 31 August 2026.
- The finalist prizes will only be awarded if the Team attends the Prize Event.

- Reasonable travel expenses for travel to the Prize Event, by the Team and accompanying teaching staff, will be reimbursed on presentation of receipts to Physics Partners. Overnight accommodation, meals, and refreshments for the Team and accompanying teaching staff will be provided free of charge.
- The Team judged best overall at the Prize Event will win the Grand Prize of funding for a trip to CERN. This trip is to be booked and paid for by the winning school/college and funded by Physics Partners. The school/college are required to invoice Physics Partners for the cost of the trip. Guidance and support with organising the Grand Prize will be provided.
- There will be no alternative prizes. If the school do not commit, before 17 April 2026, to taking the Team to CERN, then the prize will be offered to the Team judged to be the runner up.

Restrictions on Entry:

- Those entering the Competition must be in Year 12 at a State-funded School and/or Sixth Form College in England. At least one team member should be studying Physics, and the others must be studying STEM-related subjects to A-level or equivalent. There are no expected levels of attainment at A-level or equivalent for participants.
- Only one competition entry per Team per school/college.

How Finalists are Selected:

- All competition video submissions will be reviewed based on the criteria below and how they address the competition question 'From Curiosity to Cosmos: What lights up your love of physics?'.
- The applications will be reviewed by a panel of Physics Partners Coaches and two of our trustees, Emma Smart and Dr. Kathryn O'Donnell. The trustees will be joined by leading Oxford and Cambridge academics for the Grand Prize panel at King's College, Cambridge. Video entries will be judged on content, creativity, and clarity.
- Videos are requested to be approximately 3 minutes in length. Videos will only be viewed to 3 minutes and 30 seconds, anything beyond this time will not be viewed or taken into account by the judges.
- Shortlisted Teams will introduce and play their videos and respond to questions from the same panel (and audience) at the Prize Event at King's College, Cambridge. Videos and presentations combined will be judged again for content, creativity, and clarity to determine the best entry overall. The panel's decision is final.
- The physics teaching provision and demographic of the school/college may be taken into consideration by the judging panel, as appropriate and at their discretion.

Definitions

- **King's College:** Refers to King's College, King's Parade, Cambridge, CB2 1ST. interchangeably denoted as 'King's College' or 'the College' in this agreement.
- **CERN:** Refers to CERN, Esplanade des Particules 1, 1211 Geneva 23, Switzerland, and Organisation Européenne pour la Recherche Nucléaire, 01631 CERN CEDEX, France.
- **Physics Partners:** Refers to Physics Partners Ltd (Registered Charity No 1125644), Newminster House, 27-29 Baldwin Street, Bristol. BS1 1LT.
- **Device:** Denotes any device suitable for creating a competition video entry, such as a computer, mobile phone, or digital tablet.
- **The Competition:** Refers to the competition 'From Curiosity to Cosmos: What lights up your love of physics?', organised by Physics Partners.
- **Team:** Denotes up to 3 current Year 12 Students with at least one studying Physics. Other team members must be studying other STEM-related subjects at A-level or equivalent, in a State School or State Sixth Form College in England.
- **School/College:** Refers to a State Secondary School and/or Sixth Form College in England, funded by the government and providing free education to children aged 16 to 18, as per the region.
- **Shortlisted Finalists:** Refers to a Team comprising up to 3 current Year 12 students plus one (or two if capacity permits) teaching staff invited to the Prize Event at King's College, Cambridge on 1 and 2 April 2026.
- **The Prize Event:** This event is for shortlisted finalists and includes an overnight stay at King's College, Cambridge. It features presentations and screenings of the shortlisted videos to a panel of judges, followed by a Q&A session and a range of other activities. There will be up to 10 shortlisted Teams (up to 50 attendees in total) at the Prize Event.
- **The Grand Prize:** signifies funding that is being offered to enable a school/college to visit CERN, with funds being available (upon invoice) to cover travel, accommodation, meals, and certain agreed out-of-pocket expenses, for up to 3 current Year 12 students and at least one member of teaching staff. Details of allowable expenses will be provided.