Assessment criteria

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| Pass | Merit | Distinction |
| Learning aim A: Examine the fundamental aspects of the Solar System | | **A.D1** Analyse the importance of the Sun in its Solar System |
| **A.P1** Describe the main features of the Sun, Earth, Moon and Solar System | **A.M1** Explain the effects of the interaction between the Sun, Earth and Moon and other solar system objects |
| Learning aim B: Undertake measurement and observation of astronomical objects | | **B.D2** Evaluate the findings and validity of practical astronomical observations |
| **B.P2** Describe the types of telescopes used for astronomical observation  **B.P3** Confirm the relative positions of night time astronomical objects  **B.P4** Confirm the relevant positions and features of daytime astronomical objects | **B.M2** Explain the findings of practical astronomical observations |
| Learning aim C: Investigate the essential factors involved in space flight | | **C.D3** Evaluate the future of space flight and space exploration and research |
| **C.P5** Explain the main factors associated with achieving space flight for manned and un-manned exploration | **C.M3** Assess the main factors and benefits associated with achieving space flight for manned and un-manned exploration |
| Learning aim D: Understand the fundamental concepts outlined in astrophysics and cosmology | |
| **D.P6** Review the current knowledge and theories of star life cycles  **D.P7** Describe the evidence linked to theories of the evolution of the Universe | **D.M4** Explain the processes of star formation and evolution  **D.M5** Explain the evidence linked to theories of the evolution of the Universe related to observed phenomenon and its composition |