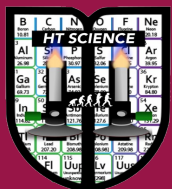


# Silent Starter

<https://www.ocr.org.uk/images/171726-specification-accredited-a-level-gce-physics-a-h556.pdf>



**Learning objectives:**  
Describe the standard model  
Explain the structure of particles

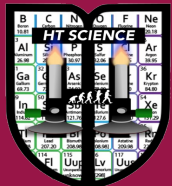
## 2 The specification overview

### 2a. Overview of A Level in Physics A (H556)

Learners must complete all components (01, 02, 03 and 04) to be awarded the OCR A Level in Physics A.

Content Overview	Assessment Overview	
<p>Content is split into six teaching modules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Module 1 – Development of practical skills in physics</li><li>Module 2 – Foundations of physics</li><li>Module 3 – Forces and motion</li><li>Module 4 – Electrons, waves and photons</li><li>Module 5 – Newtonian world and astrophysics</li><li>Module 6 – Particles and medical physics</li></ul> <p>Component 01 assesses content from modules 1, 2, 3 and 5.</p> <p>Component 02 assesses content from modules 1, 2, 4 and 6.</p> <p>Component 03 assesses content from all modules (1 to 6).</p>	<p>Modelling physics (01)</p> <p>100 marks</p> <p>2 hours 15 minutes</p> <p>written paper</p>	<p><b>37%</b></p> <p>of total A level</p>
	<p>Exploring physics (02)</p> <p>100 marks</p> <p>2 hours 15 minutes</p> <p>written paper</p>	<p><b>37%</b></p> <p>of total A level</p>
	<p>Unified physics (03)</p> <p>70 marks</p> <p>1 hour 30 minutes</p> <p>written paper</p>	<p><b>26%</b></p> <p>of total A level</p>
	<p>Practical Endorsement in physics (04)</p> <p>(non exam assessment)</p>	<p><b>Reported separately</b></p> <p>(see Section 5g)</p>

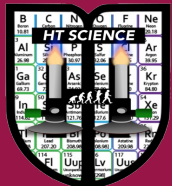
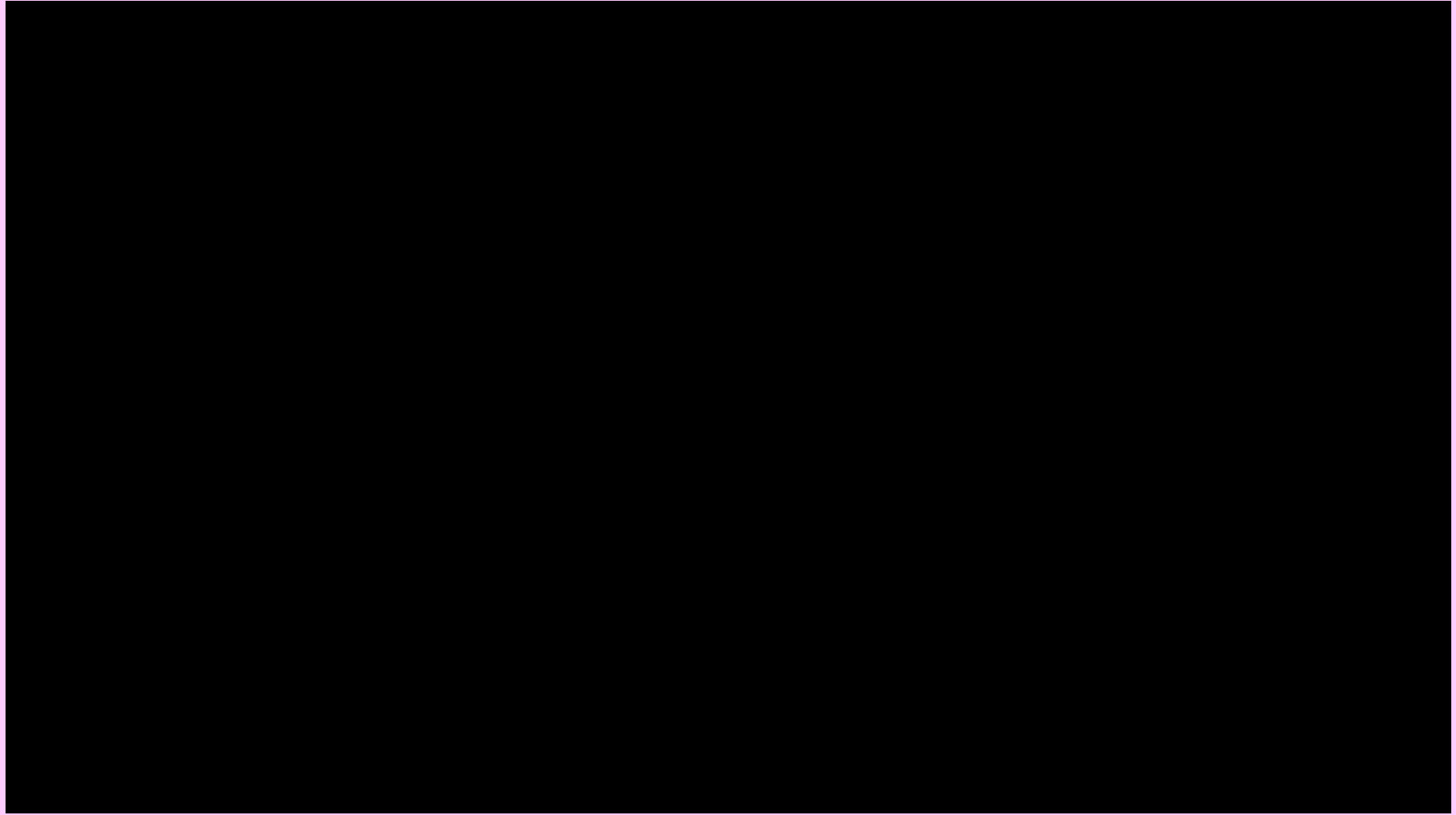
# Silent Starter



**Learning objectives:**  
Describe the standard model  
Explain the structure of particles

# Silent Starter

1 July 2025



**Learning objectives:**  
Describe the standard model  
Explain the structure of particles

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XYcw8nV\\_GTs](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XYcw8nV_GTs)

## Learning objectives

- ☐ Describe the standard model
- ☐ Explain the structure of particles

## Key words:

Quark

Lepton

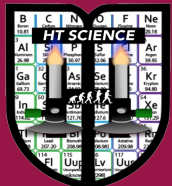
Hadron

Baryon

Proton

Neutron

Electron



**Learning objectives:**  
Describe the standard model  
Explain the structure of particles

# Explanation

Any particle that contains quarks is a hadron.

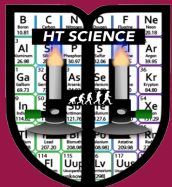
A lepton is a fundamental particle

## Standard Model of Elementary Particles

three generations of matter (fermions)						interactions / force carriers (bosons)	
		I	II	III			
QUARKS	mass	$\approx 2.2 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$\approx 1.28 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	$\approx 173.1 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	0	$\approx 124.97 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	
	charge	$\frac{2}{3}$	$\frac{2}{3}$	$\frac{2}{3}$	0	0	
	spin	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	0	
		<b>u</b> up	<b>c</b> charm	<b>t</b> top	<b>g</b> gluon	<b>H</b> higgs	
		<b>d</b> down	<b>s</b> strange	<b>b</b> bottom	<b><math>\gamma</math></b> photon		
LEPTONS	mass	$\approx 0.511 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$\approx 105.66 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$\approx 1.7768 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	0	$\approx 91.19 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	
	charge	-1	-1	-1	0	1	
	spin	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	1	
		<b>e</b> electron	<b><math>\mu</math></b> muon	<b><math>\tau</math></b> tau	<b>Z</b> Z boson		
		<b><math>\nu_e</math></b> electron neutrino	<b><math>\nu_\mu</math></b> muon neutrino	<b><math>\nu_\tau</math></b> tau neutrino	<b>W</b> W boson		

SCALAR BOSONS

GAUGE BOSONS  
VECTOR BOSONS



**Learning objectives:**  
Describe the standard model  
Explain the structure of particles

## Explanation

# The Nucleus

The nucleus consists of protons and neutrons, which are collectively known as nucleons.

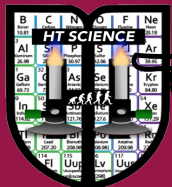
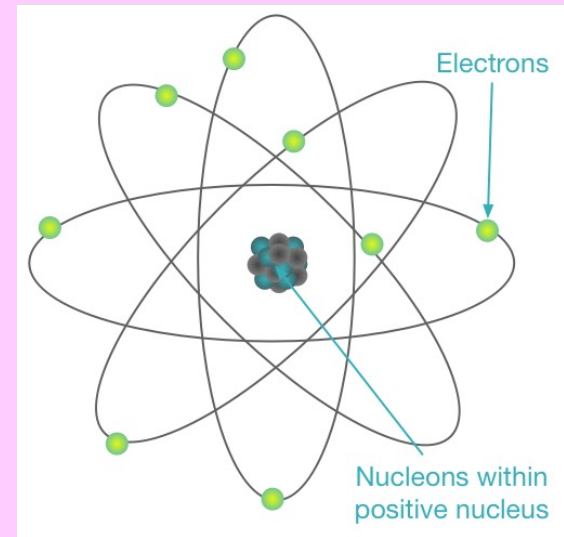
The following notation represents the nucleus of the atom:

Mass Number or  
Nucleon Number

Proton Number or  
Atomic Number



Element  
Symbol



### Learning objectives:

Describe the standard model

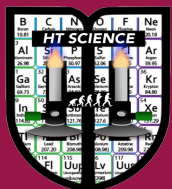
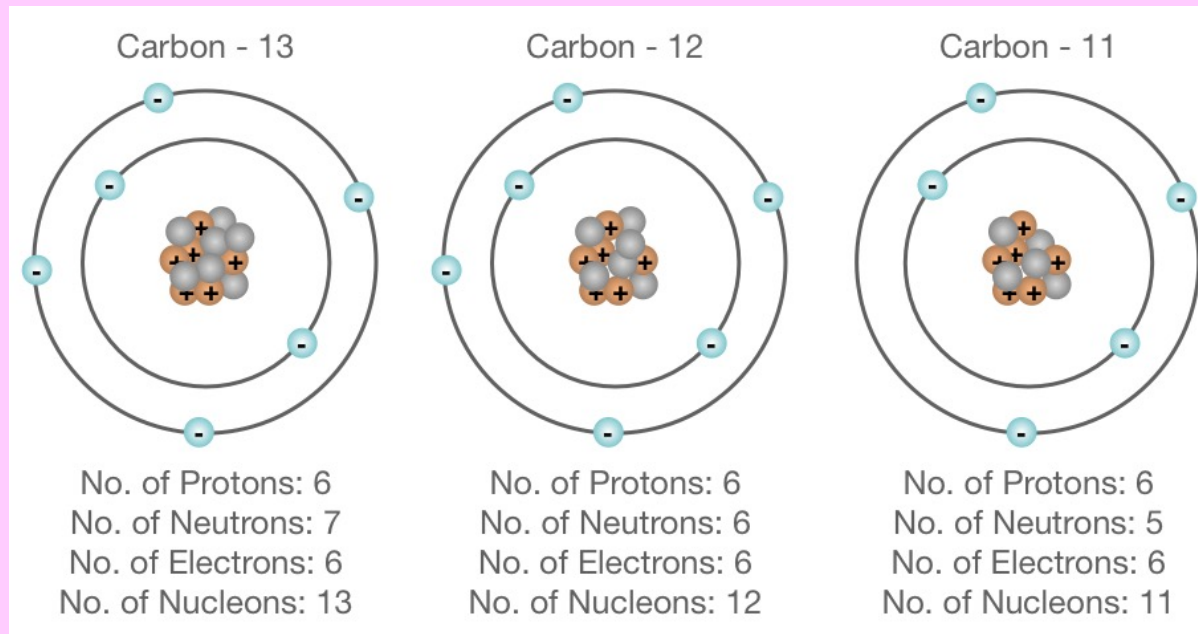
Explain the structure of particles



## Explanation

# Isotopes

An isotope is any of two or more forms of a chemical element. They have the same number of protons in the nucleus, but have different numbers of neutrons.



**Learning objectives:**  
Describe the standard model  
Explain the structure of particles

## Explanation

# Constituents of the Atom

## Proton

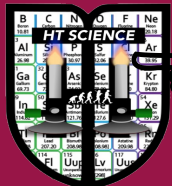
	Relative	SI Unit
Mass	1	$1.673 \times 10^{-27}$ kg
Charge	1	$1.6 \times 10^{-19}$ C

## Neutron

	Relative	SI Unit
Mass	1	$1.675 \times 10^{-27}$ kg
Charge	0	0

## Electron

	Relative	SI Unit
Mass	0.0005	$9.11 \times 10^{-31}$ kg
Charge	-1	$-1.6 \times 10^{-19}$ C



## Learning objectives:

Describe the standard model

Explain the structure of particles

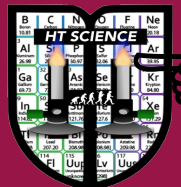
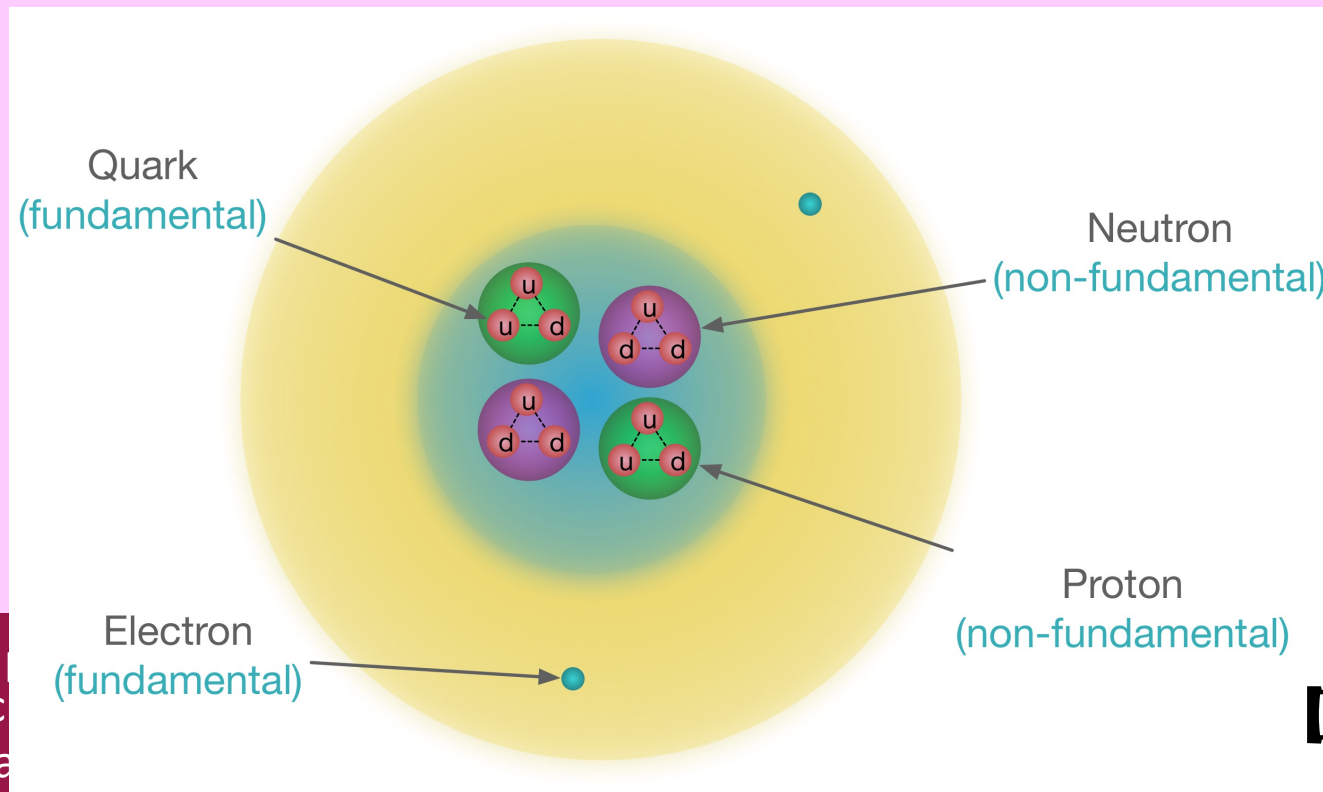




## Explanation

# Fundamental Particles

Fundamental (elementary) particles are those which are not composed of other particles. The atom consists of fundamental and non-fundamental particles



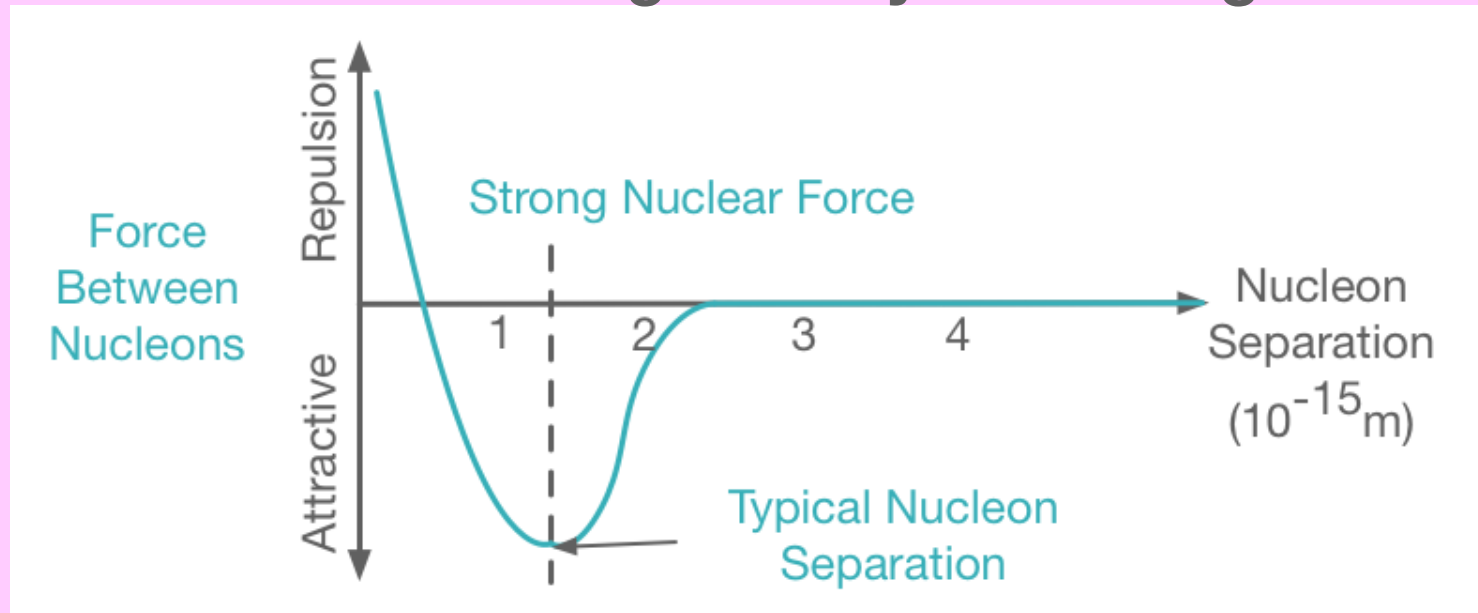
Learn  
Desc  
Expla



## Explanation

# Strong Force

The **nucleus** is held together by the strong force.

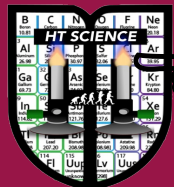


- Highly attractive between two protons within 1-2 femtometres
- Repulsive between two protons at smaller separations (cannot overlap)
- It is extremely short range and has no effect outside of the nucleus

### Learning objectives:

Describe the standard model

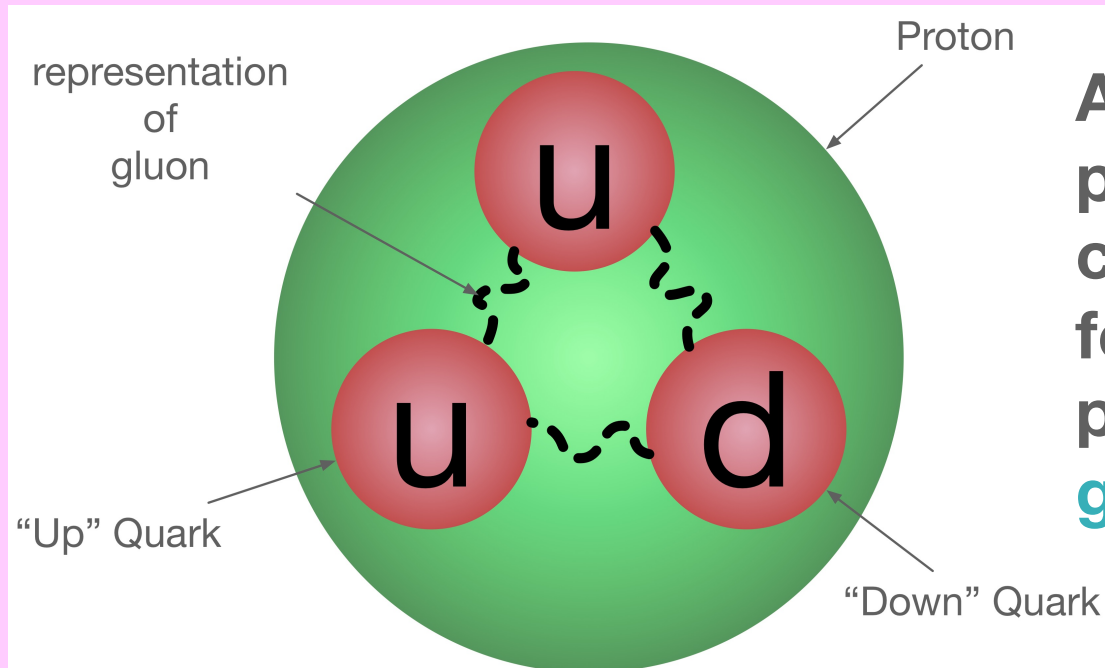
Explain the structure of particles



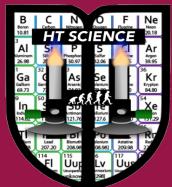
## Explanation

# Exchange Particles

It is thought that exchange particles, called **gluons**, are responsible for the Strong Force. They act between the quarks in a neutron or proton.



A gluon is a particle within the category of force-carrier particles called **gauge bosons**.

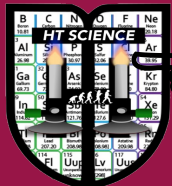


**Learning objectives:**  
Describe the standard model  
Explain the structure of particles

# Four Fundamental Forces

There are four fundamental forces that act within a nucleus. Each is thought to have their own set of exchange particles, which “carry” the force:

Fundamental Force:	Acts On:	Exchange particles (gauge boson):
Strong	Quarks	Gluons
Gravitational	All particles with mass	Gravitons (not yet observed)
Electromagnetic	All particles with charge	Photons
Weak	Leptons	W and Z Bosons



## Learning objectives:

Describe the standard model

Explain the structure of particles

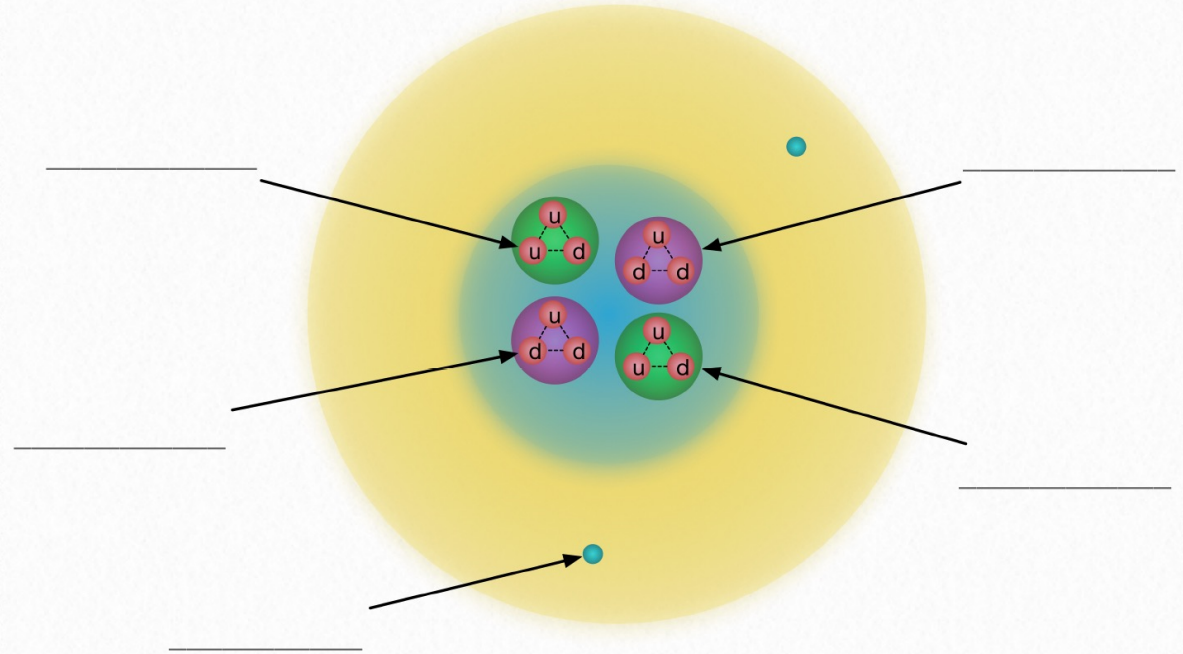


# Explanation

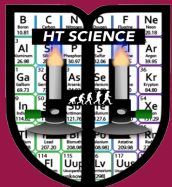
Complete the Questions

## Particle Physics

1. Label the diagram of the particles within the atom below:



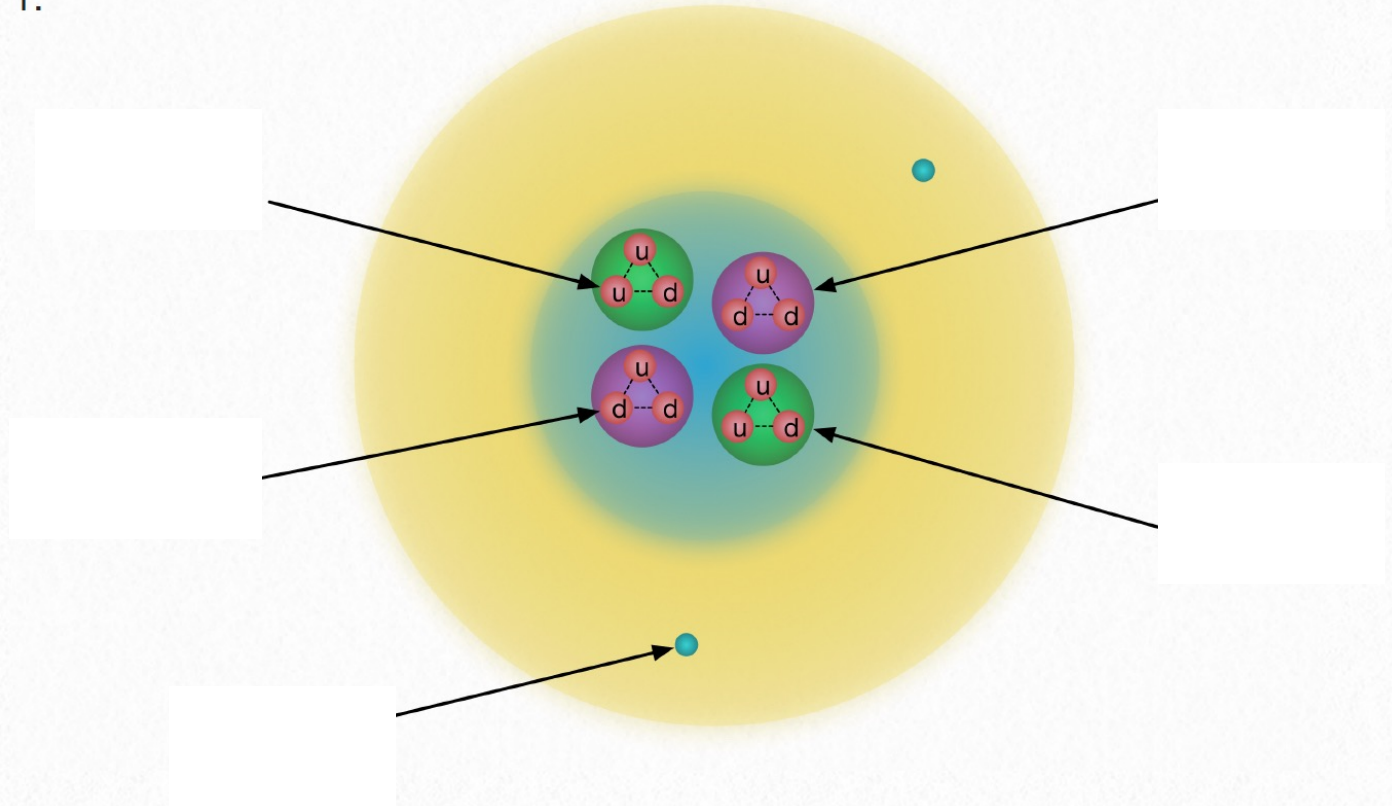
2. State what is meant by a fundamental particle



**Learning objectives:**  
Describe the standard model  
Explain the structure of particles

## Particle Physics

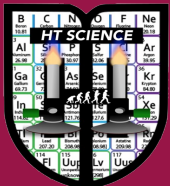
1.



2. State what is meant by a fundamental particle

Fundamental (elementary) particles are those which are not composed of other particles.

**Learning objectives:**  
Describe the standard model  
Explain the structure of particles





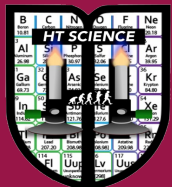
3. The particles within an atom can be divided into fundamental particles and non-fundamental particles.

a) Give two examples fundamental particles:

3. a) Quark, any lepton (e.g. electron)

b) Give two examples of non-fundamental particles:

b) Proton, neutron (any baryon or meson)



**Learning objectives:**  
Describe the standard model  
Explain the structure of particles

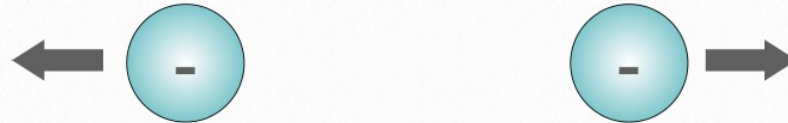
# Questions Continued

## Particle Physics

4. Name the four fundamental forces.

4. Strong, Weak, Electromagnetic and Gravitational

5. Two electrons approach each other but do not collide. They exert a force on each other and move apart.



a) Which of the four fundamental forces is involved in this process.

5. a) Weak

b) Name the exchange particle that plays a role in this interaction.

b) Photon (Gauge Boson)



6. State the quark composition of:

a) The proton

6. a) uud

b) The neutron

b) udd

7. A  $\pi^0$  particle is classed as a meson. It has a charge of 0 and a baryon number of 0. Using the quark table below, which of the following combinations could correspond to a  $\pi^0$  meson.

A.  $s\bar{u}$

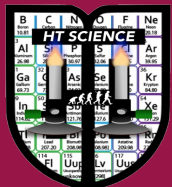
B.  $udd$

C.  $d\bar{d}$

D.  $u\bar{d}$

7. C

Quark	Charge
u	+2/3
d	-1/3
s	-1/3



**Learning objectives:**  
Describe the standard model  
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# End & send

# Expectations



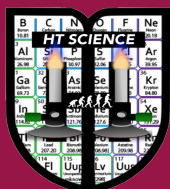
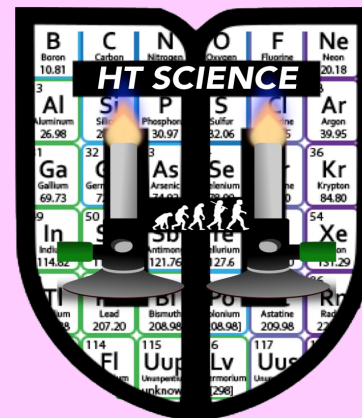
1. Put the borrowed equipment back.

2. Bin all rubbish.

3. Put your belongings in your bag.

4. Double check 1 to 3 has been done.

5. Stand and stay behind your chair silently.



**Learning objectives:**  
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