Windmill Hill Academy

light.

angle

ray of light.

The angle of

between

incidence is the

the normal line

and the incident

is equal to the

angle of reflection.

Whenever light is

reflected from

a surface, it

obeys this

law.

Light

Year 6

Key Vocabulary		Key Knowledge
light	A form of energy that travels in a wave from a source.	We need light to be able to see things. Light waves travel out from sources of light in straight lines. These lines are often called rays or beams of light .
light source	An object that makes its own light.	Light from the sun travels in a straight line and hits the chair. The light ray
reflection	Reflection is when light bounces off a surface, changing the direction of a ray of light .	is then reflected off the chair and travels in a straight line to the girl's eye, enabling her to see the chair.
incident ray	A ray of light that hits a surface.	
reflected ray	A ray of <mark>light</mark> that has bounced back after hitting a surface.	
the law of reflection	The law states that the angle of the incident ray is equal to the angle of the reflected ray.	
states that \\ c	flection is the angle of re	flection Light travels as a wave. But unlike waves of water or sound waves, it does not need a

normal line

incident ray

angle of incidence

This

medium to travel

means light can

travel through

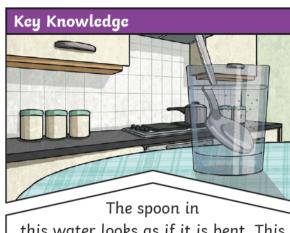
a vacuum - a

completely

airless space.

through.

Key Vocabulary		
refraction	This is when light bends as it passes from one medium to another. E.g. Light bends when it moves from air into water.	
visible spectrum	<mark>Light</mark> that is visible to the human eye. It is made up of a colour spectrum.	
prism	A prism is a solid 3D shape with flat sides. The two ends are an equal shape and size. A transparent prism separates out visible light into all the colours of the spectrum .	
shadow	An area of darkness where <mark>light</mark> has been blocked.	
transparent	Describes objects that let <mark>light</mark> travel through them easily, meaning you can see through the object.	
translucent	Describes objects that things let some light through, but scatters the light so we can't see through them properly.	
οραque	Describes objects that do not let any light pass through them.	

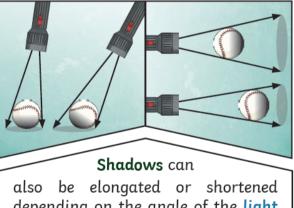


this water looks as if it is bent. This is because **light** bends when it moves from air to water. When **light** bends in this way, it is called **refraction**.

A **shadow** is always the same shape as the object that casts it. This is because when an **opaque** object is in the path of **light** travelling from a **light source**, it will block the **light** rays that hit it, while the rest of the **light** can continue travelling.

Isaac Newton shone a light through a transparent prism, separating out light into the colours of the rainbow (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo and violet) - the colours of the spectrum. All the colours together merge and make visible light.





also be elongated or shortened depending on the angle of the **light source**. A **shadow** is also larger when the object is closer to the **light source**. This is because it blocks more of the **light**.