

CHEMISTRY

A Level Course

Description

Studying Chemistry requires your enthusiasm and commitment. You should be prepared to spend around 10 hours a week consolidating classwork using structured independent work, writing up experiments and doing background reading. You will get a real in depth knowledge of Chemistry, preparing you for higher education or giving you the credentials to enhance your job options. The course emphasises the understanding and application of principles rather than learning excessive facts. A high emphasis is placed on learning the fundamental practical skills needed for Chemistry. Students will undertake 14 endorsed practical experiments across the two year A-level, and many other experiments to support their learning. Students will be assessed against the Common Practical Assessment Criteria (CPAC) in all experimental work. Students who meet these consistently by the end of the course will be awarded the practical endorsement. This is reported on their results certificate, separately to the exam grade, and forms part of most university offers. Students will also be asked to apply the knowledge and understanding of these experiments in their written exams.

Entry Requirements

GCSE Average: 4.8. GCSE Grade 6 in Maths, Grade 5 in English, Grade 7 in GCSE Science or Grade 7 in single Chemistry.



Progression

Chemistry A Level is essential for anyone entering Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science, Pharmacy and Chemical Engineering. It is a degree subject in its own right and it is important for many other scientific and engineering courses. Many Chemistry students also go on to study law, engineering and accountancy. It is useful to study Chemistry alongside another science or maths, and essential if you are considering a career in Medicine or Veterinary Medicine.



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Course Details

A Level Papers	Assessment
Unit 1 This paper is focussed on physical chemistry ('Why chemical reactions happen'), inorganic chemistry (trends across the periodic table), and understanding of relevant practical techniques.	2 hour written exam 105 Marks 35% of A Level
Unit 2 This paper is focussed on other aspects of physical chemistry ('how chemical reactions happen'), organic chemistry (carbon-containing compounds), and understanding of relevant practical techniques.	2 hour written exam 105 Marks 35% of A Level
Unit 3 This paper is synoptic of the whole course. You will also answer questions on your understanding of practical techniques, and answer multiple choice questions.	2 hour written exam 90 Marks 30% of A Level

"It's a very good course, it's a facilitating subject and enjoyable! However, it is also very challenging. The material itself is a lot more demanding to comprehend and on top of that there is a lot more to take in, a combination of both make it a difficult subject to learn. Chemistry is extremely challenging! However it will open doors for you. It is very interesting and rewarding. I would recommend it to most people who are willing to do the independent work needed. Overall, it's an excellent choice for anyone wanting to put in the effort."



Further Information

Course Leader: Mr A Yohannes
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Examination board: AQA
www.aqa.org.uk