

A-Level Chemistry

Course Outline

Having an A-level Chemistry qualification is rather like having an open flight ticket to any destination in the world - it gives you great choice. It introduces you to important chemical concepts in a fun, exciting and practical way. It also supplies you with a real world application for the processes which you can carry forward with you to university or employment.

An important part of the course is working with others as an effective team and communicating findings clearly so you can solve problems together. Practical skills underpin much of the course and you will be developing these to make you more confident, methodical and analytical in a lab. The Chemistry course is challenging and therefore highly valued in the outside world. A student who is prepared to work hard will achieve a good grade.

This subject goes well with Biology, Physics, Maths, Psychology, Geography, Technology, IT and Business.

Course Requirements

You must have at least 5 GCSEs Grade 9 - 4 including a minimum of Grade 7 in Chemistry or 6 in Chemistry with at least one other science at a Grade 6.

Course Content & Assessment

Unit 1 - Physical Chemistry

Physical Chemistry covers atoms, chemical bonding, and the kinetics and thermodynamics of chemical reactions.

Unit 2 - Inorganic

Here we look at the groups of the periodic table, how the elements react and their properties.

Unit 3 - Organic Chemistry

In this unit we look at alkanes, alkenes, alcohols and more. We also look at how to analyse and make different compounds in a lab.

Practical work runs throughout the course; minimum 12 required practicals. On consultation it is possible to study a 1 year AS-level in Chemistry, completing Y1 content in physical, Inorganic and organic topics.

This is a linear A-Level with all exams taken at the end of Year 13

Paper 1: Physical and Inorganic including practical skills - 35%, 2 hours

Paper 2: Physical and organic including practical skills - 35%, 2 hours

Paper 3: All topics, critical analysis of given experimental data and a 30 mark multiple choice - 30%, 2 hours

Students will be examined internally at the end of Year 12

Progression

The skills of a Chemist are essential in the fields of Chemical Manufacture, Research and Development, Agriculture, Biochemistry, Dentistry, Medicine, Pharmacy, Chemical Engineering, Environmental Science, Food Science, Forensic Science, Veterinary Science, Geology, Metallurgy, Water Management, Public Service, Education, Sales, Marketing and Accountancy.

Head of Subject: Dr S Cockbill

Exam Board: AQA