

Chemistry A Level

Some people say that A-level Chemistry is difficult. They're interested in the subject and the places it could take them, but think it'll be easier to study other subjects.

If you choose chemistry you'll not be opting for an easy ride. Instead you'll be accepting an exciting challenge with amazing rewards. You'll be undertaking a course which endeavours to give you a real understanding of chemistry as the frontier science it is.

You will have the opportunity to develop a wide range of transferable skills which will stand you in good stead for further or higher education and employment. In particular you will develop your problem-solving, communication and teamworking skills, all of which are highly sought-after, not only in scientific fields.

You will learn about the concepts and processes in chemistry, developing important practical skills along the way. You will begin to appreciate the enormous importance of chemistry to modern society.

Perhaps more significantly, you will be opening doors to a vast range of enthralling and potentially highly-paid careers. Indeed, chemistry is central to an understanding of the other sciences and essential for very many university courses.

Chemistry may be your greatest challenge, but it may also be your greatest achievement.

"... art restoration, football boots, alcohol, every mobile phone has what's known as a gallium arsenide chip which chemists and physicists have worked on. The plastic moulding, the LCD screen — mobile phones wouldn't exist were it not for the work of chemists." BBC News

Chemistry Units

Physical Chemistry—The study of how matter behaves on an atomic and sub-atomic level; the study of how and why chemical reactions occur

Inorganic Chemistry—The study of the structure, properties and reactions of inorganic compounds within the context of the Periodic Table

Organic Chemistry—The study of the structure, properties and reactions of carbon-based compounds; biochemical molecules, proteins, DNA

Assessment

The course is **linear**, so all of the examinations are at the end of the two years. A **practical endorsement qualification** is also awarded to reflect the experimental skills developed throughout the course. This will be essential for taking further scientific courses at college or university.



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A-Level Chemistry Assessment

A Level	Paper 1	Physical and inorganic chemistry and practical skills 2 hour exam, 105 marks short and long answer questions	35% of overall grade
	Paper 2	Physical and organic chemistry and practical skills 2 hour exam, 105 marks short and long answer questions	35% of overall grade
	Paper 3	Any content covered by the course and practical skills 2 hour exam, 90 marks 60 marks short & long answer questions 30 marks multiple choice questions	30% of overall grade



Practical Endorsement (CPAC assessment)

There are 12 core practical assignments that students must undertake and formally record in a laboratory book. Visiting examiners will study the students' work and may wish to discuss it with them. Questions on the experiments will appear in the exams.

To pass, students must satisfy all 11 skills criteria which are common to all exam boards.



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