

A Level Chemistry



Exam Board: OCR

We are following the OCR accredited specification, the content of which is virtually the same as we have successfully taught for the last few years. A-level (H432) will be terminally assessed with each module exam taken at the end of Year 13.

An A-level in Chemistry is an excellent qualification for a wide career choice within Science, Industry or Commerce. Students with a firm background in Chemistry have demonstrated themselves to be numerate, analytical and practical with good problem solving, presentation and communication skills. Jobs can be found in small to multinational chemical companies, as well as business, banking, accountancy, marketing, advertising, teaching, the IT sector and of course, research and design. An A-level in Chemistry is highly respected and the salaries for Chemistry graduates are amongst the highest for any subject at degree level.

Chemistry is often referred to as the Central Science because it joins together Physics, Mathematics, Biology, Medicine, Earth Science, Forensic Science and Environmental Sciences. Knowledge of the nature of chemicals and chemical processes therefore provides insights into a variety of physical and biological phenomena. For better, for worse, everything is chemical!

Course summary:

There are 6 Modules with content: Developing Practical Skills, Foundations in Chemistry, The Periodic Table & Energy, Core Organic Chemistry, Physical Chemistry & the Transition Elements, Organic Chemistry & Analysis.

A more rigorous examination of the students Mathematical skills will be inherent in the new specification and there is a “Maths Module” to support this.

The “Practical Endorsement” will be reported separately as a pass or fail.

Practical Work

Practical work will continue to be a major part of A-level teaching, but will no longer be examined in the laboratory as a coursework element. The new specifications include practical questions in the written exams. Individual Centres will need to allocate, monitor and assess practical work and students must keep these files up to date at the end of each lab session. This work must be filed and available for Inspection by awarding bodies on request. This will lead to an “A-level Practical Endorsement”.



WORK HARD, BE KIND, TAKE RESPONSIBILITY

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Assessment:

Paper 1: Periodic Table, Elements & Physical Chemistry.

Paper 2: Synthesis & Analytical Techniques

Paper 3: Unified Chemistry

Entry requirements:

Grade 6 or above in GCSE Combined Science or GCSE Chemistry to be accepted on the course. You will be expected to be competent in your knowledge of GCSE Chemistry.

Other course information:

The teaching will be supported by an e-book based website Kerboodle and we have invested in the appropriate licences to allow our students to progress independently as well as under the guidance of our staff.

Who is the course for?

A-level chemistry is an exciting, challenging subject to study and it can reward you in many surprising ways. If you have a genuine interest then this is the subject for you.

Career pathways

A degree in chemistry opens doors to a wide variety of employment opportunities. The range of available jobs is considerable and covers many different types of chemistry and industries such as nanotechnology, large scale chemical plants, the drinks and pharmaceutical industries or teaching.

Your skills will also be in demand in other areas. A study of chemistry helps you develop logical thought and numerical skills and the ability to write accurate and concise reports. As a result, our chemists are in demand in national and local government, in hospitals and in education at all levels.

"Chemistry at Park House School is taught in an engaging way that brings the topic to life. Lesson plans are built around the students, to ensure students understand every topic in depth. I look forward to my lessons each week, chemistry A-Level is fun."



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