

CHEMISTRY

A-LEVEL



Examination Board: EDEXCEL

Course content:

The Edexcel course is taught from a context-led approach which covers motivating and contemporary chemistry contexts. Students will study aspects of chemistry that are often in the media and affect their lives. It is important that students have the necessary knowledge and understanding to explain many different aspects of contemporary chemistry. These areas include:

- climate change
- green chemistry
- pharmaceuticals
- chemistry research

The content of the course includes the fundamental key concepts of chemistry needed for progression into higher education and employment.

Assessment:

AS Level: (first year of course: most, if not all, students will not sit the AS exam)

Paper	Name	Method	Weighting	Duration
1	Core Inorganic and Physical Chemistry	Written exam	50%	90 mins
2	Core Organic and Physical Chemistry	Written exam	50%	90 mins

A Level:

Paper	Name	Method	Weighting	Duration
1	Advanced Inorganic and Physical Chemistry	Written exam	30%	105 mins
2	Advanced Organic and Physical Chemistry	Written exam	30%	105 mins
3	General and Practical Principles in Chemistry	Written exam	40%	150 mins

Skills acquired:

Studying the GCE in Chemistry should be a practical experience for students. This course contains practical activities embedded within each unit, to reflect the nature of chemistry. This will increase students' enjoyment and understanding of chemistry together with providing them with the skills needed to study science at higher levels.

Links with other subjects:

Biology, Physics, Maths, PE and Geography.

Possible careers:

Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science, Forensic Science, Biochemistry and other Biological Sciences, Pharmacy, Environmental Sciences, Agricultural Sciences, Forestry, Horticulture, Public Health, Metallurgy, Home Economics, Medical and Scientific Sales, Engineering and Geology. Admission to most scientific degrees requires an A-level in Chemistry.

Prior experience:

Students will find the course much easier if they have achieved at least a Level 7 in Core and Additional Science or Triple Chemistry at GCSE. Any student who achieves a Level 6 will need to discuss their situation with Mrs Parker-Webley, Head of Chemistry.

Student comments:

"The course is really lively and varied - understanding how Chemistry is used in the real world makes it relevant and interesting." "The emphasis is on active, practical learning."