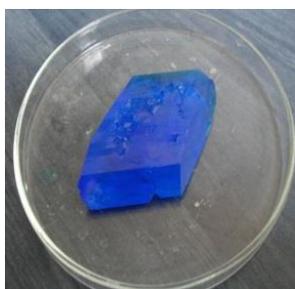


CHEMISTRY IN THE SIXTH FORM



WHY STUDY CHEMISTRY?

Have you ever wondered what makes copper sulphate crystals blue, or why ice floats on water? At A Level we begin to explain the appearance and behaviour of substances. We hope students develop a sense of the awe and wonder inspired by knowledge of the atomic and molecular workings of the material world. Students should study Chemistry if they enjoy the challenge of a deeper understanding of the world around them.



Students will have to study Chemistry to enter the medical professions or to continue with biological sciences beyond school. There are a range of careers available for scientists and this is expanding with the increased focus on environmental issues. Chemistry also provides a good foundation for careers in law, accountancy, engineering and banking.

A LEVEL CHEMISTRY

There are eight lessons a week, shared equally between two different teachers. The AQA Chemistry specification is divided into topics, each covering different key concepts.

Year 12 - Atomic Structure, The Mole, Bonding, Energetics, Kinetics, and an Introduction to Organic Chemistry.

Year 13 - Thermodynamics, Electrochemical Cells, Transition Metals, pH and Further Organic Chemistry

PRACTICAL WORK

Practical activities build on students' I/GCSE skills. Practical work is an integral part of the course and will be assessed in the written examinations and in the practical endorsement.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS?

Students need to achieve at least an IGCSE/GCSE Grade 8 or 9 in Chemistry (or the Chemistry component of Double Award Science) and at least a Grade 7 in IGCSE/GCSE Mathematics. Chemistry requires good number skills and the ability to problem-solve.

SUBJECTS THAT COMBINE WELL WITH CHEMISTRY

Although there are no other A Levels that are essential for Chemistry, if students are thinking of a specific career they may be advised to take particular subjects. For example, Biology is recommended for the study of Medicine. Maths is essential for studying Chemistry at university.

In recent years, students have gone to university to study Chemistry, Medicine, Veterinary Medicine and Science, Natural Sciences, Biomedical Sciences, Engineering, Biochemistry, Nursing and many other science-related subjects.

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

A variety of co-curricular activities are provided for the A Level chemists. For example, Chemistry in Action lectures, the opportunity to organise and run a RSC Global Experiment, the Cambridge Chemistry Challenge, and a weekend visit to the copper mines at Ecton.



A LEVEL RESULTS 2019

| GRADE | A* | A | B | C | A* - C |
|-----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| Chemistry | 11% | 56% | 22% | 11% | 100% |