

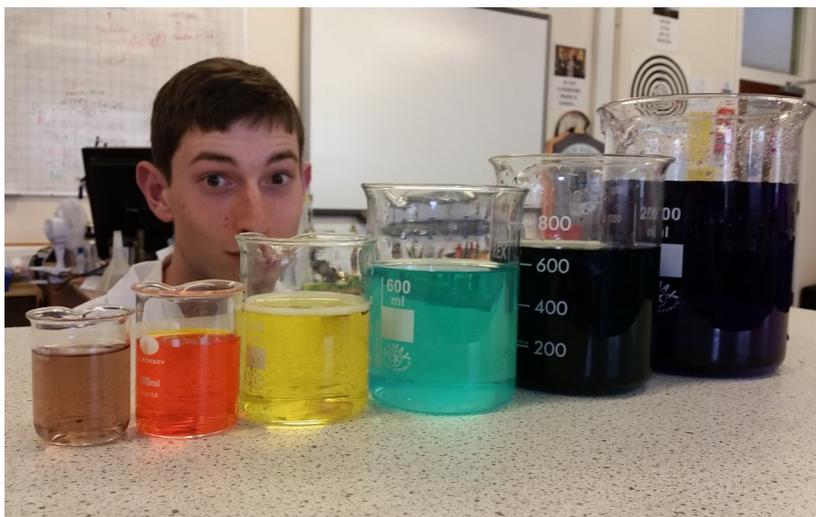
CHEMISTRY

AQA: A LEVEL CHEMISTRY

INTRODUCTION

Chemistry is the study of all materials and is vital to every aspect of life. From the moment of birth and throughout the whole of life, Chemistry surrounds us – in the air we breathe, the food we eat and the clothes we wear. Many people not called 'Chemists' also practice Chemistry because it is the central science. Chemists extend nature to such an extent that 90% of all known substances have been created by Chemistry and would not have been known without the efforts of Chemists.

The A level course builds directly on the IGCSE. The aim of the course is twofold. Firstly, to inspire and generate future Chemists to carry on developing all those materials that make our lives comfortable. As a by-product, students will develop skills in problem solving, analysis, initiative, accuracy, numeracy and decision-making which will make them highly sought-after in an increasingly scientific and technological world.



COURSE CONTENT

The Department has devised a bespoke two-year practical Chemistry course which links closely to the AQA specification.

PAPER	ASSESSMENT	DURATION	WEIGHTING
Paper 1	Examination Paper (105 marks)	2 hours	35% of A Level
Paper 2	Examination Paper (105 marks)	2 hours	35% of A Level
Paper 3	Examination Paper (90 marks)	2 hours	30% of A Level

The AS papers include all types of questions that are in the A level, but at a lower level, helping students to progress towards the more challenging A level questions.

LOOKING FURTHER AHEAD

Moving on from last year our most recent leavers are now studying Pharmacy, Chemical Engineering, Veterinary, Neuroscience, Biochemistry, Natural Sciences as well as one reading Finance.

As well as being essential for those pursuing careers in Chemistry and other directly related courses, A level Chemistry is also required for degrees in Pharmacy, Medicine, Veterinary Medicine, Dentistry and Ophthalmology—courses which are generally oversubscribed and hence, require grades A*-A at A level.

Other non-scientific degree options include Accountancy, Law, Marketing and Management. As for other career options, these include: Crime Scene Investigators, Petroleum Chemists, Food and Drug Analysts, Pharmaceutical Chemists, Geneticists, Anaesthesiologists, Material Scientists, Chemical Engineers and Environmental Scientists.