



# GCE: Chemistry AQA





**CANNOCK CHASE** HIGH SCHOOL

CHIEVEMENT FOR ALL

A-level Chemistry attempts to answer the big question **'what is the world made of?'** and it's the search for this answer that makes this subject so fascinating.

From investigating how one substance can be changed drastically into another, to researching a new wonder drug to save millions of lives, the opportunities that chemistry provides are endless.



CANNOCK CHASE HIGH SCHO

FOR

### **Course Content**

- Formulae, equations and amounts of substance
- Atomic structure
- Bonding and structure
- Energetics and kinetics
- Equilibria
- Redox
- Inorganic chemistry and the periodic table
- Organic chemistry
- Modern analytical techniques



### **Course Content**

#### 3.1 Physical chemistry

- 3.1.1 Atomic structure
- 3.1.2 Amount of substance
- 3.1.3 Bonding
- 3.1.4 Energetics
- 3.1.5 Kinetics
- 3.1.6 Chemical equilibria, Le Chatelier's principle and Kc
- 3.1.7 Oxidation, reduction and redox equations
- 3.1.8 Thermodynamics (A-level only)
- 3.1.9 Rate equations (A-level only)
- 3.1.10 Equilibrium constant Kp for homogeneous systems (A-level only)
- 3.1.11 Electrode potentials and electrochemical cells (A-level only)
- 3.1.12 Acids and bases (A-level only)

#### 3.2 Inorganic chemistry

- 3.2.1 Periodicity
- 3.2.2 Group 2, the alkaline earth metals
- 3.2.3 Group 7(17), the halogens
- 3.2.4 Properties of Period 3 elements and their oxides (A-level only)
- 3.2.5 Transition metals (A-level only)
- 3.2.6 Reactions of ions in aqueous solution (A-level only)

#### 3.3 Organic chemistry 3.3.1 Introduction to organic chemistry 3.3.2 Alkanes 3.3.3 Halogenoalkanes 3.3.4 Alkenes 3.3.5 Alcohols 3.3.6 Organic analysis 3.3.7 Optical isomerism (A-level only) 3.3.8 Aldehydes and ketones (A-level only) 3.3.9 Carboxylic acids and derivatives (A-level only) 3.3.10 Aromatic chemistry (A-level only) 3.3.11 Amines (A-level only) 3.3.12 Polymers (A-level only) 3.3.13 Amino acids, proteins and DNA (A-level only) 3.3.14 Organic synthesis (A-level only) 3.3.15 Nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy (A-level only) 3.3.16 Chromatography (A-level only)



### Practical endorsement

- Minimum of **12 practicals**
- Need to keep separate practical record
- Students that achieve will receive a PASS grade
- Not needed for the AS qualification BUT will be assessed in the AS exams

### A Level- 2 years of study

#### Assessments

#### Paper 1

#### What's assessed

 Any content from topics 1– 4, including relevant practical skills

#### Assessed

- written exam: 2 hours
- 91 marks
- 35% of A-level

#### Questions

- 76 marks: a mixture of short and long answer questions
- 15 marks: extended response questions

#### Paper 2

#### What's assessed

 Any content from topics 5-8, including relevant practical skills

#### Assessed

- written exam: 2 hours
- 91 marks
- 35% of A-level

#### Questions

- 76 marks: a mixture of short and long answer questions
- 15 marks: comprehension question

#### Paper 3

#### What's assessed

 Any content from topics 1–8, including relevant practical skills

#### Assessed

- written exam: 2 hours
- 78 marks
- 30% of A-level

#### Questions

- 38 marks: structured questions, including practical techniques
- 15 marks: critical analysis of given experimental data
- 25 marks: one essay from a choice of two titles



### Why do Chemistry?

- Universities think very highly of Chemistry students; they have to be the best of the best!
- Develops transferrable thinking and application skills
- Great Chemistry students exhibit excellent teamwork, networking, research and analytical skills and have a high sense of self motivation and self esteem!



### Why do Chemistry?

## Possible degree options

According to bestcourse4me.com, the top five degree courses taken by students who have an Alevel in Chemistry are:

- Chemistry
- Biology
- Pre-clinical medicine
- Mathematics
- Pharmacology.

https://university.which.co.uk/ advice/a-level-choices/what-alevels-do-you-need-for-thedegree-you-want-to-study

### Possible career options

Studying an A-level Chemistry related degree at

university gives you all sorts of exciting career

options, including:

- Analytical chemist
- Chemical engineer
- Clinical biochemist
- Pharmacologist
- Doctor
- Research scientist (physical sciences)
- Toxicologist
- Chartered certified accountant
- Environmental consultant
- Higher education lecturer
- Patent attorney
- Science writer
- Secondary school teacher.



### What skills do I need?

- Commitment to hard work
- Enthusiasm, passion and skills in science (minimum of 2 6s at Combined/ 6 in Triple Science Chemistry and a 6 in Maths) with the desire to develop a greater understanding of new concepts and principles
- Willingness to develop a high level of experimental skills and safe working practice
- Excellent mathematical skills (minimum grade 6 at GCSE) to use and manipulate numbers and formulae



### What is expected of a level Chemists

- 5 hours of private study each week minimum
- Reading around the subject magazines, books etc
- To get to grips with the maths (it is tricky!)
- To revise as you go along
- To learn key words word for word



# Previous Chemistry students have gone on to great things!



UNIVERSITYOF

BIRMINGHAM



JNIVERSITY OF

**Courses our students have studied** 

- Medicine
- Pharmacology
- Chemistry
- Dentistry
- Chemical engineering
- Biomedical Science
- Maths
- Physics
- Astrophysics



### Where can you get more information?

**Mrs Platts** 

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AQA Chemistry A level

https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/asand-a-level/chemistry-7404-7405