

A-level Chemistry (AQA exam board)



Subject Overview

Chemistry is the study of the composition, structure, properties and change of the matter which makes up our world. You will study the world right down to its molecular and atomic structure, discovering more about the elements and compounds which surround us in our daily lives.

Cooking is chemistry. Everything you can touch or taste or smell is a chemical. Chemistry explains why detergent works better in hot water and how one pain killer will be better than another if you've got a headache. It enables you to understand the world around you on a deeper level.

Subject Information - Chemistry

Component /Unit/Exam paper	Weighting	Title	Details
Paper 1	35% of A level		<u>External exam</u> written exam: 2 hours 105 marks
Paper 2	35% of A level		<u>External exam</u> written exam: 2 hours 105 marks
Paper 3	30% of A level		<u>External exam</u> written exam: 2 hours 90 marks

What opportunities this course could lead to:

Famous chemists include Nobel Prize winning Marie Curie who discovered Radium and Polonium, Louis Pasteur who created early vaccines for anthrax and rabies and Alfred Nobel who invented dynamite and went on to give his name to one of the most prestigious prizes in the world.

This course will give you a great theoretical base, but will also cover the practical application of chemistry in our everyday lives.

Chemistry is an essential A Level to study for access to certain degree courses, such as Medicine, Veterinary Science and Dentistry.

The following are some of the other careers you could consider:

Archaeology, Biomolecular Research, Engineering, Finance, Forensic Science, Geology, Industrial Chemistry, Law, Pharmacology, Radiography.

Course requirements:

You will need a grade 6 or above preferably in GCSE Chemistry.

You can enter the A-level Chemistry course having studied Combined Science. However, you will need a grade 6 or higher in Combined Science and be willing to complete some additional transition work during the summer break.

Useful websites:

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/as-and-a-level/chemistry-7404-7405/specification-at-a-glance>