

Chemistry

Qualifications

Exam board: OCR A and H432 (A2)
A Level in Chemistry (two year course only)

Entry Requirements

A minimum of 5 passes at grade 5 or grade C (including English and Maths). A minimum of 2 grade 6's in Science.

Skills Required

Our most successful students have a passion for Chemistry and a keen eye for detail. They are curious about science, have good practical skills and enjoy learning about complex theories.

Students must possess high levels of literacy, numeracy and problem solving skills. The ability to relate to abstract concepts is vital. Students will be expected to do a substantial amount of work outside of lesson time in order to master the more challenging chemical principles.

Course Outline

OCR A level Chemistry will give you an exciting insight into the contemporary world of Chemistry. It covers the key concepts of Chemistry, and practical skills are integrated throughout the course.

You will learn about Chemistry in a range of different contexts and the impact it has on industry and many aspects of everyday life. You will learn to investigate and solve problems in a range of contexts and will be able to explain fascinating facts such as why ice floats and how aspirin stops pain in the body.

In addition to terminal examinations students will carry out a practical endorsement for Chemistry.

Student Testimony

"The course was well organised and the delivery was such that I was not overwhelmed by the new concepts, which were gradually developed over the weeks. Practical work was very enjoyable."

Career Paths & Degree Courses

There are former Hele's A level students in the Chemistry departments of many Russell group universities and they are well on the way towards successful careers in industry and research. Chemistry is an essential A level for any medical or biological degree course and very useful for engineering courses. Universities are aware of the demands of A level Chemistry – a high grade will help you to gain a place on any degree course, even in non-scientific subjects such as French or Law.

Year 12 and 13

Paper 1 - Periodic Table, Elements and Physics Chemistry

Multiple choice, structured and extended questions covering theory and practical skills
2 hour 15 minute written examination
37% of A level

Paper 2 - Synthesis and Analytical Techniques

Multiple choice, structured and extended questions covering theory and practical skills
2 hour 15 minute written examination
37% of A level

Paper 3 - Unified Chemistry

Structured and extended questions covering theory and practical skills
1½ hour written examination
26% of A level