



What will Year 12 students learn and how many lessons will they have each week?

In Year 12 students have 4 hours per week of Chemistry lessons

As well as developing practical skills, we will study: The Foundations of Chemistry, Periodic Table and Energy, Core Organic Chemistry, Physical Chemistry and the Transition Elements and Advanced Organic Chemistry and Analysis.

What will Year 12 students need to do to get the most out of their lessons?

Students need to be prepared for hard work from the beginning of year 12. A-level Chemistry is a lot harder than GCSE, so you will need to be motivated. In lessons maintain a positive attitude and ask when you need concepts clarifying. Listen to your teachers and ask questions. Chemistry is not about learning facts but applying your understanding to different situations, so be prepared to think deeply. Whilst doing practical work think about what you are doing, why and how the experiment could be improved.

How much homework will Year 12 students have in this subject?

We expect students to do a minimum of 4 hours per week of private study. This will be made up of homework tasks, writing up practical work, independent reading, and preparation work.

Which careers can this subject lead to?

Medicine, Dentistry, Nursing, Biochemistry, Chemical Engineering, Archaeology, Geology, Veterinary Science, Biomedical Sciences, Engineering.

Which other subjects complement this subject?

Chemistry has strong links with Biology, Physics and Maths. It also links well with Physical Geography.

Do I need to be good at Maths to study A-level Chemistry?

A level Chemistry requires strong mathematical skills at GCSE level. There is no requirement to have any mathematical knowledge beyond GCSE, but being comfortable with number, calculations and orders of magnitude is important. Most successful Chemistry students have grade 7 or above in GCSE Maths.

What are the key differences between GCSE and A-level Chemistry?

It is important to recognise the step-up that is required from GCSE is very significant. It is assumed that all GCSE knowledge is secure and this base is very rapidly built upon, with more complicated ideas and theories introduced early in Year 12. Students must adapt to the demands of A-level by improving their independent learning skills and ensuring that a significant amount of out-of-class learning is being completed. It is expected that these skills are fully developed by the end of the first term.