

CHEMISTRY

A Level

This subject will suit you if:

- you want to study a subject that has global impact.
- you realise that you are surrounded by chemistry; the air you breathe, the food you eat and the clothes you wear, it's all chemistry.

Chemistry is the study of substances; what they are made of, how they interact with each other and the role they play in living things.

Whether you want to care for penguin colonies in Antarctica or work in a dynamic business environment, chemistry can help you achieve your goals.

From research in space, to the depths of the oceans, chemistry helps you understand the world around you and opens up lots of career opportunities.

If you fancy the challenge, Chemistry A level can take you almost anywhere.



Provisional Entry Requirements

At least 2B's in GCSE Science (Core & Additional or Triple Science) and at least a B grade in GCSE Maths.



What You'll Study

A-level chemistry consists of 3 topics. These are physical chemistry, inorganic chemistry and organic chemistry.

For AS & the first year of A-level you will study

In the first term you will be building on the fundamental ideas that you have covered in your GCSE science. These include the interaction of atoms and compounds, the practical applications of chemistry calculations and periodicity. In term 2, you will study organic and physical chemistry in more detail; investigating how chemistry impacts on our everyday lives from CFC's destroying the ozone layer to carbon neutral fuels. There are two 1hr 30 min exams at the end of AS.

In year 2 you will study

Kinetics, equilibria and organic chemistry; this delves deeper into aspects covered in year 12 and covers topics such as the manufacture and use of drugs and how to identify unknown organic compounds.

Energetics, Redox and Inorganic Chemistry; discover how anticancer drugs work and what goes on inside rechargeable batteries.

Practicals

There is no coursework for A-level chemistry. However, you will carry out 12 required practicals over 2 years which are assessed in the exam papers and is worth 15% for A-level Chemistry.

PARRS WOOD | SIXTH FORM

Why I chose Chemistry

~ Seun

"I chose to study chemistry at a level because firstly because it was my favourite out of the 3 core science subjects and I enjoyed the practical side of it which is one of the main reasons why I was excited because I knew I was going to get more freedom using various equipment I had never even heard of before but also getting to know the periodic table and seeing how some elements can do the most extraordinary things and some just do nothing. It was interesting to see the transition from GCSE to A level and seeing that everything you've learnt is pretty much a lie, which is exciting because it means what your being taught is entirely new learning experience. One of the best things about chemistry is that it always leaves you asking some sort of question at the end even if it's a stupid one."



Enrichment

We provide a wide range of enrichment activities for Sixth Form chemists:

- Dedicated revision sessions for AS and A-level chemistry
- After school Chemistry Club which is for students who are interested in the practical aspects of chemistry and wish to take their knowledge beyond the A-level syllabus
- Spectroscopy and Synthesis discovery day at Manchester University where you get hands on experience of making and analysing an organic compound.
- The chance to participate in the North West Analysts competition and the Cambridge Chemistry Challenge in the first year and the RSC Chemistry Olympiad in the 2nd year of your studies.
- Participation in Manchester University Chemistry department's outreach program where you have the opportunity to attend a variety of lectures on a cutting edge chemistry research.

Do you want to be a...
Doctor, Vet, Dentist or Engineer, or
a career in another scientific area?
Then Chemistry is for you.

Ideas for Progression

A level Chemistry is taken by a diverse range of students, but it is vital if you wish to study any of the following at university: Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Pharmacology, Optometry, Biochemistry, Forensic Science and of course Chemistry.



To find out more you can visit our website: www.parrswood.manchester.sch.uk/sixthform
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