



Bloxham School

Chemistry

A Level



Why choose this subject?

- Chemistry is a fundamental science, a fascinating and varied subject that we hope will stimulate and inspire you.
- Chemistry plays a pivotal role in modern life
 - Chemical industries
 - Energy production
 - Transportation
 - Fibres & plastics
 - Agrochemicals, pharmaceuticals and foodstuffs

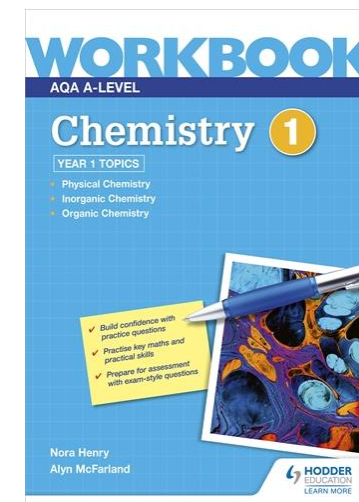
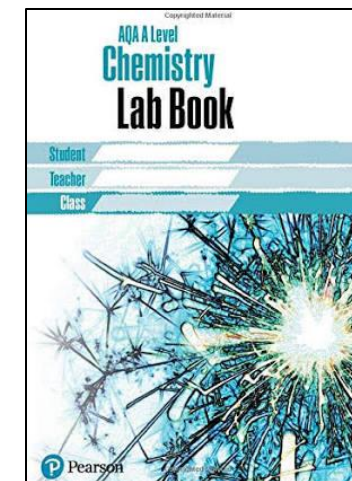


The nature of the course

- Examination board: AQA
- Course contents: Inorganic, Organic, Physical
- 10 lessons per fortnight
- 2 teachers

We are a practical focussed subject but there are no controlled assessments for A Level Chemistry.

Students will be required to undertake 12 specific practical activities (typically six in each year of the course), the skills of which will be examined in all three exam papers.



Examination structure



- Paper 1 (Inorganic chemistry with relevant physical chemistry)
- Paper 2 (Organic chemistry with relevant physical chemistry)
- Paper 3 is a synoptic paper covering material over the entire course and includes all practical skills.
- Both papers 1 and 2 are 2-hour exams and contribute 35% to the A Level grade. The total for each paper is 105 marks and it consists of a mixture of short and long answer questions.
- Paper 3 is a 90 minute paper that contributes 30% to the A Level grade. This exam consists of questions based on practical techniques and data analysis (40 marks), questions across the entire specification (20 marks) and multiple-choice questions (30 marks).

What do we expect from candidates?



- Academic traits: A Level Chemistry is an exciting but demanding subject, so students would be expected to have a strong pass in:
 - GCSE Chemistry (typically grades 7-9)
 - GCSE Double Science (7/7- 9/9).
- The A Level course also contains a significant maths component, and it is expected that students would have a good pass in GCSE Maths (again, typically grades 7-9).
- Students will be expected to complete all work set and meet all deadlines.



What do we expect from candidates?



- There is a significant practical element to the course, which leads to a practical endorsement. Pass/Fail. Certain university courses insist on practical endorsement as an entrance requirement.
- Wider reading around the subject and participation in related extracurricular activities/competitions is essential and contributes to the high performance of the best candidates in examinations and success in the university interview/selection process.



With which subjects can it be combined?



Chemistry is most frequently combined with:

- Maths
- Biology
- Physics

Higher Education and Careers?



- Enabling subject that allows students to develop a range of skills and interests that extend beyond the classroom/laboratory and are essential/valued subject for numerous university course.

Pre-requisite for:

- Medicine, Natural science, Chemistry
- Forensic science

Highly desirable:

- Biochemistry
- Pharmacology/pharmacy
- Chemical Engineering

QUICK VIEW		FULL TABLE					
University ranking	University name	Overall score	Entry standards	Student satisfaction	Research quality	Research intensity	Graduate prospects
1	University of Oxford VIEW COURSES →	100%	92%	n/a	86%	98%	90%
2	University of Cambridge	100%	100%	n/a	89%	100%	84%
3 ▲ 2	University of St Andrews VIEW COURSES →	97%	97%	86%	81%	100%	83%
4 ▼ 1	Durham University VIEW COURSES →	96%	86%	83%	83%	89%	86%
5 ▼ 1	University of York VIEW COURSES →	96%	77%	87%	80%	91%	87%
6	University of Glasgow VIEW COURSES →	95%	91%	77%	79%	91%	83%
7 ▲ 11	University of Strathclyde VIEW COURSES →	95%	85%	85%	79%	89%	79%
8 ▼ 1	University of Liverpool VIEW COURSES →	95%	64%	80%	88%	83%	88%
9	UCL (University College London) VIEW COURSES →	94%	74%	80%	83%	100%	84%
10	University of Warwick VIEW COURSES →	94%	66%	85%	83%	94%	84%

Teaching Staff



Dr Floate
Head of Department



Dr Limpkin



Mr Evans



There will be another member of staff joining the chemistry team.