

**Overview:**

An understanding of Chemistry and Chemical processes underpins all that we do. It allows us to explain everything from the composition of stars to the processes of life, touching on a myriad of everyday items such as your mobile phone battery, preventing corrosion in your car, and making the next great breakthrough in drug discovery. We currently follow the OCR A course which follows on equally well from both Combined Science or Separate Science GCSE courses.

**A Level:**

This involves three papers:

Fundamentals of Chemistry

Scientific Literacy in Chemistry

Practical Skills in Chemistry

There is a number of set practicals that all students must undertake through the course. They are required to keep a lab book of their results and conclusions, and questions on the examination will be set on the practicals recorded in this lab book. Students will receive a certificate of successful completion of their lab book.

**Expectations:**

In lessons, students are required to carry out a number of practical tasks both in groups and independently. Students will need to reflect on their own work and evaluate others, being prepared to articulate results and conclusions. Prior reading is mandatory before each lesson and extended reading and annotations of notes are expected. Students are required to regularly assess their learning against the specification. We expect between 6 and 12 hours work per week outside the lesson in order to be an excellent Chemist.

**Extra-Curricular Activities/Independent Learning Opportunities:**

Further interest in Chemistry is generated by extracurricular events, such as participation in the Chemistry Olympiad and visits to Chemistry Lectures as the opportunity arises.

**Career Pathways:**

Studying Chemistry at A Level can lead to careers in Medicine, Veterinary Science, Dentistry, Chemical Research, Pharmacy, Chemical Engineering, Chemistry Teaching, and Environmental Sciences.

**Good combinations of other subjects to study with Chemistry are:**

Biology, Physics, Mathematics, Geography, Psychology.

**Student Testimonials:**

*"I have really enjoyed learning mechanisms as part of A-level Chemistry, they give a really detailed understanding of how things actually work"*

*"Initially I found A-level Chemistry hard but now I am really enjoying the challenge of it. I really like calculation we have to do as part of the course"*