

	CHEMISTRY	
	Qualification Level	A-level
	Exam Board/ Syllabus	OCR (Salters B)
Contact(s)	Mr Coates	

Why Study This Course?

Chemistry touches nearly every facet of life. Everyday materials, medicines and microchips are all developed with the expertise of professional chemists. The study of chemistry is diverse; from plastics, fuels and drug molecules, to extracting and processing metals, understanding our complex atmosphere and explaining how our oceans have a huge impact on our weather patterns. Chemistry also allows you to develop a wide range of skills, including analytical, mathematical and evaluative, which makes chemists highly desirable in a very wide range of professions.

Course Content

You will study chemistry in a range of different contexts, conveying the excitement of contemporary chemistry. Ideas are introduced in a spiral way with topics met in an earlier part of the course reinforced later. This follows a journey through ten Storylines. These convey the fascination and relevance of contemporary chemistry and range from concerns about the ozone layer to the development of new medicines.

Course Assessment Pattern/ Structure

- Papers 1, 2 and 3 can assess content from any part of the course, as well as practical skills.
- Paper 1 covers breadth of understanding of concepts assessed by mainly shorter structured questions
- Paper 2 covers deeper understanding of concepts assessed by a mixture of short structured, extended response and problem-solving style questions. This paper includes an Advanced Notice article.
- Paper 3 has a larger focus on practical skills, with a particular emphasis on investigational and problem solving skills.

Exam Structure

Development of practical skills underpins the whole specification, and covers skills that students will gradually develop through practical work throughout the course. There are 12 practical activities that will be covered over 2 years which make up the Practical Endorsement. These practical skills will also be formally assessed within written examinations.

A-Level B (Salters) (H433)		Marks	Duration	Weighting	
Paper 1	Fundamentals of Chemistry	110	2 hr 15 mins	41%	
	Section A	Multiple choice			30
	Section B	Structured questions			80
Paper 2	Scientific Literacy in Chemistry	100	2 hr 15 mins	37%	
	Structured questions and extended response questions, covering theory, practical skills and chemical literacy				100
Paper 3	Practical Skills in Chemistry	60	1 hr 30 mins	22%	
	Structured questions and extended response questions with a focus on the assessment of practical skills				60
Non-exam assessment	Practical Endorsement for Chemistry	Pass/fail	Non-exam assessment	Reported separately	
	Students complete a minimum of 12 practical activities				0

Higher/Further Education & Career Links

Possible careers which require Chemistry at A-Level include: medicine, veterinary science, pharmacy and pharmacology, biochemistry, chemical engineering, materials science, environmental science, metallurgy and chemical synthesis.

<i>Business & Innovation</i>	<i>English</i>	<i>Expressive Arts & Languages</i>	<i>Humanities</i>	<i>Mathematics</i>	<i>PE</i>	Science
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