

Separate Science - GCSE Chemistry



Career Options

Examples of careers opportunities include: medicine; physiotherapist; chemist; beautician; plumber; nurse; surveyor; engineer; farmer; sports trainer; lawyer; journalist; computer games developer.

Subject Content

GCSE Chemistry is part of the AQA Separate Science suite, developed to inspire and challenge students. The course provides the foundations for understanding the natural, material and physical world.

Pupils will study the following topics in Chemistry:

- Atomic structure and the periodic table
- Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter
- Quantitative chemistry
- Chemical changes
- Energy changes
- The rate and extent of chemical change
- Organic chemistry
- Chemical analysis
- Chemistry of the atmosphere
- Using resources

Assessment Information

- GCSE Chemistry is a linear course worth 1 GCSE.
- Pupils will follow the higher tier subject content (Grades 9 – 4) and are assessed by two 1 hour and 45-minute exams. Paper one assesses the topics, Atomic structure and the periodic table through to Energy changes. Paper two assesses the topics, the rate and extent of chemical change, through to Using resources.
- Each paper will assess knowledge and understanding from distinct topic areas. Questions include multiple choice, structured, closed short answer, and open response.
- Each examination is out of 100 marks and has a weighting of 50%. Scores will be added to give an overall total which will then be converted to a grade.
- Pupils will also gain experience of 8 practical activities. Questions in the written exams will draw on the knowledge and understanding students have gained by carrying out the practical. These questions will count for at least 15% of the overall marks for the qualification.

Why Study...?

GCSE Chemistry includes progression in the subject content and consistency in the exam questions, so pupils have the best preparation for A-level. The course aims to also develop pupil's ability to evaluate claims based on science through critical analysis of the methodology, evidence and conclusions, both qualitatively and quantitatively.

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