



Chemistry

Course Information

At Cavendish we study AQA Chemistry. This is a content based approach, with links to a wide variety of practical based activities.

Students will study aspects of chemistry that are often in the media and affect their lives. It is important that students have the necessary knowledge and understanding to explain many different aspects of contemporary chemistry. These areas include climate change, green chemistry, pharmaceuticals, chemistry research.



Course Content

AS Topics

Paper 1 (50% weighting)

This unit covers the basic chemical skills required for the course, and includes:

- Atomic structure and the periodic table
- Bonding and structure
- Energetics
- Inorganic chemistry and the periodic table
- Formulae, equations and amounts of substance
- Experimental methods (including questions on core practicals)

Paper 2 (50% weighting)

This unit develops students' understanding of the key chemical principles, and includes:

- Formulae, equations and amounts of substance
- Bonding and structure
- Organic chemistry
- Energetics
- Kinetics
- Equilibrium
- Experimental methods (including questions on core practicals)

A2 Topics

Paper 1 (35% weighting)

- Atomic structure and the periodic table
- Bonding and structure
- Energetics
- Equilibria and redox
- Thermodynamics
- Inorganic chemistry
- Experimental methods (including questions on core practicals)

Paper 2 (35% weighting)

- Amount of substance
- Bonding and structure
- Energetics and kinetics
- Equilibria
- Rate equations
- Organic chemistry
- Experimental methods (including questions on core practicals)



Paper 3 (30% weighting)

- Any content studied
- Experimental methods (including questions on core practicals)

Practical assessment

A level is 100% externally assessed (no coursework)

Teacher-assessed practical competency, based on core practical activities, will be reported alongside the A level grade.

There are 16 core practicals that cover all of the 12 techniques required for the practical competency measure.

Knowledge of all core practicals will also be tested within exam papers.

Core practicals form part of the practical competency assessment.

Entry Requirements

GCSE Maths - 6 or above.

GCSE Science - 2 grades at B or above. If Triple Science has been studied, this must include a B grade in Chemistry.



Future Opportunities

There are many good reasons to choose Chemistry.

It obviously complements many other scientific disciplines such as the biological sciences, medicine, dentistry, physical sciences and engineering, environmental studies, physical geography and geology. It also provides the rigorous academic training for careers such as law, accountancy, management and computing. So if you study Chemistry at this level there will be many excellent employment opportunities open to you in the future.



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