

World class thinking. World class achieving.

St Mary's College

CHEMISTRY (AQA)

Pre-course reading and guidance





A Level Chemistry

WHY SHOULD I CHOOSE CHEMISTRY?

- › Chemistry will give you the opportunity to work in many areas including dentistry, veterinary science and medicine. The course is delivered by members of staff that have a great deal of expertise in delivering the subject. Group sizes are normally a maximum of twenty five pupils.
- › Pick up a can of soft drink and you'll find chemistry everywhere, from the metal can you're holding, to the paint used to cover it and the liquid inside. Just breathe in and out and you're performing a chemical reaction. Chemistry is sometimes known as the "central science" because it helps to connect physical sciences, like maths and physics, with applied sciences, like biology, medicine and engineering.

WHAT IS THE COURSE STRUCTURE LIKE?

- › The course is a **two year** course. It consists of **three exams**. Papers 1 and 2 are worth 35% of the qualification with Paper 3 being worth 30%. There is no coursework.

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A LEVEL Chemistry Exams (sat in Y13)

Paper	Topics	Weighting (%)	Time (hours)
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Physical ChemistryInorganic Chemistry	35	2
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Physical ChemistryOrganic Chemistry	35	2
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">All content	30	2

Exam Syllabus for Chemistry:
<https://bit.ly/345So5z>

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A LEVEL Chemistry Course Texts (Year 12)

You will be loaned the following text book in Y12:

- AQA Chemistry: A Level Year 1 and AS by Ted Lister

Additionally, you will have the opportunity to purchase the following revision guide:

- CGP A-Level Chemistry: AQA Year 1 & AS Complete Revision & Practice with Online Edition



A LEVEL Chemistry Further Reading (Year 12)

Books

- [The Disappearing Spoon: And Other True Tales of Madness, Love, and the History of the World from the Periodic Table of the Elements by Sam Kean \(Top Pick for chemistry\)](#)
- The Pleasure of Finding Things Out - Richard Feynman
- Periodic Tales - Hugh Aldersey-Williams
- The Disappearing Spoon - Sam Kean
- Uncle Tungsten - Oliver Sachs
- The Shocking History of Phosphorus: A Biography of the Devil's Element - John Emsley

Magazine/Journals

- Scientific American (online subscription)
- New Scientist (online subscription and available from newsagents)
- The Mole

Websites

- Periodic Table of Videos by Martyn Poliakoff - www.youtube.com
- Royal Society of Chemistry - www.rsc.org.uk
- Institution of Chemical Engineers - www.icheme.org
- www.chemguide.co.uk

Any further questions?:



Contact details of lead teachers of Chemistry:

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We also offer **Applied** Science as a Level 3 BTEC National, and A Levels in Biology and Physics.

Please see the relevant pre-reading guidance for further details.