

# CHEMISTRY

A Level - AQA

## St Mary's College Sixth Form

### Aims of the course

The qualification aims to:

- Stimulate and sustain your interest in, and enjoyment of, chemistry - Enables you to gain a knowledge and understanding of chemistry appropriate to AS/A2 Level and to appreciate the inter-linking patterns which are a distinguishing feature of the subject.
- Show the relationship between the development of the subject and its application (social, economic, environmental and technological) and recognise the value of chemistry to society and how it may be used responsibly.
- Develop your skills in laboratory procedures and techniques.

### What are lessons like?

You will study this subject for five hours a week with an expert chemistry teacher. Opportunities are given for students to study some aspects of the course at Hull University.

### Course Content

Students will study different aspects of chemistry that are often in the media, and that affect their lives. It is important that students have the required knowledge and understanding of the fundamental chemistry concepts in order to explain many different aspects of contemporary chemistry such as climate change, green chemistry, pharmaceuticals and chemistry research.

Topic Titles:

Organic Chemistry  
Inorganic Chemistry  
Physical Chemistry

These units develop a broad based understanding of Chemistry and form an excellent platform for a range of undergraduate courses.

## What are the exams like?

Students will take A Level examinations during the summer of Y13. In addition, there will be the opportunity to earn a practical skills endorsement over the two years.

## Recommended Prior Learning and Entry Requirements

This course builds on the knowledge and understanding from the suite of current GCSE Science courses. It is expected that you will have achieved a **GCSE grade 6 or above in this subject from a higher tier paper**. During the course you will need to be able to communicate effectively and research information from a variety of sources. You will also be expected to handle and interpret data so a secure understanding of **GCSE Mathematics (grade 6)** and **English (grade 4)** is expected.

## Recommended Additional Reading

- [www.aqa.org.uk](http://www.aqa.org.uk)
- [www.s-cool.co.uk](http://www.s-cool.co.uk)
- Headstart to AS Chemistry – CGP
- A Level Chemistry Revision Guide (AQA) - CGP
- AQA A-level Chemistry Year 1 Student Book – Hodder Education

## Where can this course lead to?

- Degree courses in chemistry, environmental science, medicine and pharmacy are a small selection of courses with direct links. UCAS handbooks will give you further guidance. Chemistry is one of the most accepted A Level subjects for undergraduate courses.
- Follow a Higher National programme in Applied Chemistry and related courses.
- Employment routes include pharmacy and biotechnology.

## Why choose to study chemistry at St Mary's?

Chemistry is a wonderful science that gives you the opportunity to go onto many areas including dentistry, veterinary science and medicine. The course is delivered by four members of staff that have a great deal of expertise in delivering the subject. Many students will be able to study in the secure knowledge that the department knows you from KS4 lessons and that, most importantly, you know them! We also welcome new students from all schools and colleges who help us to provide the diverse, fresh and stimulating learning environment we strive for.