AQA

Chemistry

About the course

Each year covers the 3 main branches of Chemistry; Physical, Organic and Inorganic chemistry, with required practical tasks running throughout.

In Physical Chemistry we build on the GCSE work of atomic structure, bonding, rates of reaction and quantitative chemistry, in the context of how and why reactions happen. This part of the course will particularly appeal to those who enjoy maths.
In Organic Chemistry we learn about how we get chemicals from crude oil and can turn them into materials we use in everyday life such as plastics and medicines.

The topic Inorganic Chemistry expands the work we covered at GCSE on the uses of the different groups of elements found on the periodic table.

Over the two years there are 12 Required Practical tasks to complete which develop skills such as experimental planning, problem solving, interpreting data, graphical analysis, carrying out risk assessments and manipulation of lab equipment.

Assessment

A Level Chemistry is assessed in three 2-hour exams. Paper 1 concentrates on Physical Chemistry, Paper 2 concentrates on Organic Chemistry, with Inorganic topics split across both papers. Paper 3 comprises questions on the Required Practicals and synoptic questions from across the course as both written answer and multiple-choice questions.

The Practical Endorsement Qualification is awarded after successful completion of all 12 Required Practical tasks.

Careers

Chemistry is a highly regarded A level and can lead to careers as diverse as Architecture and Banking. If you enjoy Chemistry, studying this subject at A Level provides you with a wealth of transferable skills that will be desirable in any future career or further study. The more traditional careers that A level Chemistry can lead to include Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science, Pharmacy, Biomedical Sciences, Research Science and all types of Engineering.

Scientific advancements continually open-up new opportunities in areas such as Environmental Chemistry and Materials Science, meaning that future careers may even involve areas of Chemistry that are as yet undiscovered.

Entry Requirements

To be successful at A level Chemistry we require students to achieve at least 6,6 if they are sitting GCSE Combined Science or 6's if they are studying Separate Sciences (Triple Science), alongside a 6 in Maths.

Find Out More

If your have any questions or would like to find out more information please contact charlotte.johnstone@whitleybayhighschool.org or visit AQA - Clcik here>>