

**Course Title**

A Level Chemistry

Aims of the Course

To stimulate and sustain interest and enjoyment in Chemistry. To show how Chemistry can be and is used in industrial and business situations, such as the synthesis of pharmaceutical drugs, fuels and food components.

What will you study?

There is a good balance between the descriptive components of organic, inorganic and physical Chemistry at A Level. These areas are built upon within the second year and in addition students study the subject area of thermodynamics to a standard which will allow them access to the most demanding University courses. The mathematical content of the course is Level 2 in challenge and builds up as the course progresses. In Year 13 there is sufficient depth of study for those who are interested in the quantitative areas of Chemistry.

How will you be assessed?

Three exam papers at the end of year 13 as follows:

Paper 1- Inorganic and Physical Chemistry

Paper 2- Organic and Physical Chemistry

Paper 3 – Synoptic Chemistry with Practical skills focus

You will also undertake a practical endorsement over the two years focussed on practical apparatus and techniques linked to the course.

What wider skills will you develop?

There is a focus within the course on application and analysis of information, linking scientific concepts to unfamiliar scenarios. You will focus to a large extent on your practical skills, interpreting data and drawing conclusions from your results.

Chemistry also involves the transferable skills of problem solving and critical analysis developed in the course making it readily applicable to all areas of engineering and materials science.

What are the future options from the course?

Chemistry is an important foundation science. The recent explosion in the Biochemical and Biological Sciences will create increased opportunity for Chemists with a particular interest in Organic Chemistry.

Areas where Chemistry is considered mandatory/useful by University Tutors are: Medicine (essential), Law, Biology, Biochemistry (preferred) Materials Science (essential), Economics, Mechanical Engineering, Civil Engineering, Chemical Engineering (essential)

Who can you contact for more information?

The Course Leader is Ms Lucy Purnell (Director of Science) who can be contacted via email at: Lucy.Purnell@verulam.herts.sch.uk