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A Level in Chemistry

Location	Altrincham Campus
Course Type	College 16-18
Department	A Levels
Start Date	Monday 1st September 2025
Course Code	AFQ-AL3L-1108

Course Overview

A Level Chemistry covers a wide range of concepts and gives you an insight into the contemporary world of chemistry. It covers the key fundamentals of chemistry and practical skills are integrated throughout the course. You will learn about chemistry in a range of different contexts and how it contributes to the success of the economy and society.

A Level Chemistry will allow you to develop a range of transferable skills including investigating, problem-solving, research, decision-making, mathematical skills, and analytical skills. The course opens a range of possibilities for further study and careers associated with the subject.

Students follow the OCR A Level Chemistry A specification.

Course Requirements

PLEASE NOTE - YOU MUST APPLY FOR 3 A LEVELS

Standard A Level entry requirements: 5 x GCSE grade 5's or above (must include Maths and English Language). However, certain subjects may have additional entry criteria, which can be found below:

Additional Entry Requirements:
A Level Chemistry will require grade 6 in GCSE Maths
A Level Chemistry will require grade 6 in GCSE Chemistry plus a grade 6 in GCSE Biology/Physics, or 66 in Combined Science.

This subject must also be studied alongside at least one other science-based (Maths, Biology, Chemistry, Physics) course.

What You Will Learn

The course builds on skills and knowledge gained at GCSE and covers a range of topics which give students a greater insight into principles and concepts underlying the chemical world. Specifically, we cover aspects of Physical, Inorganic and Organic Chemistry including the structure of the atom, trends and patterns in the Periodic Table and typical reactions of organic families.

Assessment

3 papers are taken at the end of the two-year course:

Paper 1: Periodic table, elements and physical Chemistry (37% of total A Level)
Paper 2: Synthesis and analytical techniques (37% of total A Level)
Paper 3: Unified Chemistry (26% of total A Level)

There is a special practical grade awarded on the basis of the practical reports completed over the two-year programme.

Progression

Chemistry is an essential qualification for a number of health-related courses such as medicine, pharmacy, and dentistry as well as the biological sciences, physics, mathematics, pharmacology, and analytical chemistry. Chemistry opens a range of career opportunities in areas such as forensics, healthcare, environmental protection, chemical, manufacturing, and pharmaceutical industries. The problem-solving skills are also useful for other sectors including law and finance.

Career Options

Career paths include Research Chemist, Forensic Scientist, Teacher, Analytical Chemist, Chemical Engineer, Biochemist, Pharmacologist, Doctor, Toxicologist, or Environmental Manager amongst others.

Mandatory Units

Content is split into six teaching modules:

Module 1 - Development of practical skills in chemistry
Module 2 - Foundations in chemistry
Module 3 - Periodic table and energy
Module 4 - Core organic chemistry
Module 5 - Physical chemistry and transition elements
Module 6 - Organic chemistry and analysis

Contact Details

For further information please contact T: 0161 886 7070 or E: info@trafford.ac.uk

Disclaimer

Although every care has been taken to ensure that the information contained within this document is accurate, there may be changes to this programme and provision. We will endeavour to keep prospective and current students updated where appropriate and when the information becomes available.