

CHEMISTRY

AQA A Level Chemistry 7405

COURSE OVERVIEW

In the lower sixth, the students explore elements and compounds and how molecules stick together. They look at carbon chemistry in a rigorous and logical way for the first time. There is a strong focus on mathematical techniques in work on moles, reaction rates, equilibria and heat energy change. In the upper sixth the students are stretched still further as they try to gain a deeper understanding of substances and the relationships between them. They look at thermodynamics, electrode potentials, pH and spectroscopy. Mathematical techniques make up about 20% of the course.



HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

The exam comprises three written papers which include longer written questions and multiple choice sections. They must also complete 12 required practicals during the 2 year course and keep a record of these in a lab manual. Practical techniques are then assessed as part of the written exam.

AQA	1	2	3
Length	105	105	90
Weighting	105	105	90

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Students should gain at least a Grade 6 in either Combined Science or Chemistry. In addition it is recommended that students have a sound working knowledge of GCSE Mathematics.



WHY STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

Chemistry is a well-regarded A level which opens doors to many university courses, including business, economics, politics, marketing and law. Most university admission tutors place a high value upon the rigorous and logical nature of the subject. It is a key subject for any student intending to pursue a career in Life Sciences, Medicine, Pharmacology, Dentistry, Veterinary Science or Biotechnology. It is also vital for those interested in degree courses in pure Chemistry, Petrochemical or Industrial Chemistry and Forensic Science.

Students looking for information on the course itself should go to the **AQA** website. For information about careers in Chemistry or Chemical Engineering see the **RSC** website or **WhyNotChemEng**.