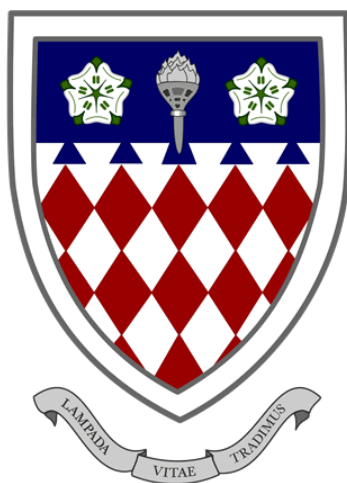


Spalding High School Sixth Form

A Level Chemistry



Why Choose A Level Chemistry?

Chemistry is a fascinating subject that is well worth considering at A level. The Chemistry department is committed to developing the interest and enthusiasm of pupils in Chemistry, with a vision to encourage further study at university, in research and chemistry related careers. By the end of the course you should not only have gained a knowledge and understanding of the subject and practical skills, but also have developed the ability to problem solve and communicate effectively. Great emphasis is placed upon the teaching of a wide variety of practical skills to students, which will enable them to carry out chemistry experiments themselves, accurately and safely, and then analyse and evaluate their findings. Throughout the course, much stress is made on the importance of Chemistry, its relevance to our everyday lives, its economic importance and the impact of chemical reactions on the environment. Wherever possible, experimental work is used to illustrate the theoretical principles. Potentially dangerous experiments can be accessed by means of ICT or will be demonstrated to you by your chemistry teachers. Through the high quality teaching and subject knowledge available in the department we aim to ensure that you enjoy both the subject and the journey.

What career paths might I follow with A Level Chemistry?

An A level in Chemistry can lead to further study of the subject at university, or it can enable you to gain a place on a degree course in many scientific subjects including veterinary science, medicine, pharmacy, biological sciences, food science, dietetics and others.

Students with a degree in Chemistry or related subjects are in demand for careers in industry, research, forensic science, teaching etc.

What is the content of the course and how is it assessed?

Chemistry will be available as a stand-alone qualification at A level (OCR, H432) for 2 years. The syllabus followed will be from OCR which provides clear guidance and support for pupils whatever their ability. All pupils will be given a copy of the relevant sections of the specification so that they can monitor their progress and clearly see the route through the chemistry course.

There are a total of six modules through the course, four of which are completed in the first year. The first year's topics are development of practical skills, foundations in chemistry, periodic table and energy, and core organic chemistry. In the second year the modules are physical chemistry and transition elements, organic chemistry and analysis, and further practical skills development.

There is no coursework but your practical skills will be internally assessed throughout the two year course by the completion of at least one practical from each of the twelve areas of practical competence as provided by OCR.

These will be marked by staff and a judgement will be given as a pass or fail in the practical endorsement.

What do our students say about A Level Chemistry?

'Chemistry at A level is challenging but thoroughly enjoyable. Learning in both a practical and theory based manner solidifies all knowledge further. Lessons are always engaging and support is readily available.'

'Chemistry is by far my favourite subject. The enthusiasm of the teachers and how fun the course is has motivated me to wanting to study it further at university. Something I did not think I would ever do. Chemistry is definitely the best.'

'Chemistry is as interesting as it is entertaining. To be able to draw mechanisms for different types of reaction and naming really long complicated molecules such as 2,2-dichloro-3-hydroxybutanoic acid, you instantly feel a sense of accomplishment.'

Specification

Exam Board— OCR

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as-a-level-gce-chemistry-a-h032-h432-from-2015/>

Entry requirements

Grades 7,7 in Combined Science and Grade 6 in Mathematics

OR

GCSE Grade 6 in Chemistry and Grade 6 in Mathematics

For further details please contact

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