



Chemistry

Mrs J Marsh

Academic Requirements

In general, we would prefer A level students to have achieved A*, A or B grades at GCSE either in Core and Additional Science or in Chemistry. Our experience suggests that high A level grades tend to be achieved by those students who gain A/A* grades at GCSE. Several units of the course include a considerable number of calculations and it is therefore important for A level Chemistry students to have a firm grasp of mathematics. Algebra is particularly helpful, but the mathematical demands do not exceed those of GCSE. It is very important that students enjoy the practical nature of Chemistry since there are practical assessments throughout the course.

Course Specification: OCR Chemistry (H434)

Module 1: Practical Skills

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

There is also a practical endorsement qualification.

Why Chemistry?

Chemistry is a demanding A level, and success in it will bring many rewards. It offers a fascinating and challenging perspective on the world from atomic particles upwards. It will appeal to students with an inquiring mind who enjoy problem-solving and who can think clearly and logically. Practical work is an important aspect of the subject.

Students choose Chemistry for a number of reasons. Some may plan to study Medicine, Veterinary Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Chemical Engineering or Food Science for which the subject is essential. Chemistry combines well with Biology, Physics and Mathematics since there are common areas between the subjects so that one can provide





useful support for the other. Other students successfully combine Chemistry with contrasting subjects such as English, Music or a Language.

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A Student's Perspective

"Chemistry is a fascinating subject to take if slightly tricky at first. Spending that extra time out of class clarifying your knowledge will make it even more rewarding."