

CHEMISTRY: HIGHER

Why Chemistry?

The study of Chemistry at Higher can make an important contribution to your knowledge and understanding of the physical and natural world. The course provides a good basis for further study in Chemistry or related subjects, such as environmental and food sciences. It also provides valuable background knowledge for training in many areas of health and technology.

Entry to the Course

This is at the discretion of the school but you would normally be expected to have attained one of the following:

- National 5 Chemistry at A-C pass
- Candidates with good National grades in Maths, Biology and Physics but no National 5 Chemistry may also be considered.

Course outline

The course consists of 4 units.

Chemical changes and Structure

This unit develops knowledge and understanding, problem solving skills and practical abilities in the context of

- Controlling the rate of a reaction
- Periodicity
- Structure and bonding

Nature's Chemistry

This unit develops knowledge and understanding, problem solving skills and practical abilities in the context of

- Esters, fats and oils
- Proteins
- Chemistry of cooking
- Oxidation of food
- Soaps, detergents and emulsions
- Fragrances
- Skin care

Chemistry in Society

This unit develops knowledge and understanding, problem solving skills and practical abilities in the context of

- Getting the most from reactants
- Equilibria

- Chemical energy
- Oxidising or reducing agents
- Chemical analysis

Researching Chemistry

Candidates should have knowledge of pieces of general apparatus and be familiar with different techniques

Developing skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work

Learners are expected to develop broad generic skills as an integral part of their learning experience. For this course, it is expected that the following skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work will be significantly developed:

- Literacy
- Numeracy – number processes, money, time and measurement, information handling
- Thinking skills – applying, analysing and evaluating, creating
- Working with others
- Citizenship

Assessment

The course is assessed by a combination of internal assessment by the teacher/lecturer and an external examination and assignment, set and marked by the SQA.

Progression

Successful Completion of this course may lead to:

Advanced Higher in

- Chemistry

Education (HNC/HND/Degree);

Employment in

- Animals Land & Environment
- Health & Medicine
- Manufacturing Industries
- Science & Mathematics
- Security & Protective Services
- Sports & Leisure

Further advice and information on these options is available from your Subject Teacher, Home Area Principal Teacher and Careers Adviser.