

Chemistry

The GCE Advanced level course is best considered as two 1-year courses. The first year will lead to the Advanced Subsidiary (AS) qualification. Upon successfully completing this, students progress to the second year (A2). At the end of this second year the full A level qualification is available.

The course is modular with A/S comprising of three units and the full A level being made up of these three, plus three more units in A2.

HOW CAN THE STUDY OF CHEMISTRY HELP ME?

Chemistry occupies a central and pivotal position in the sciences and its study develops an appreciation of many aspects of our complex and technical society.

Its study opens up innumerable career prospects and a selection of these follows: anatomy, agricultural science, beauty therapy, biochemistry, biology, physics, engineering, chemistry, dentistry, food science, forestry, medicine, pathology, polymer science, veterinary science, zoology and many, many more.

Potential employers value the analytical and conceptual skills that are developed during the study of chemistry. Such skills, coupled with the ability to work in a meticulous and accurate manner, enable chemistry students to pursue careers within, or outside, the vast area of Science.

Although Chemistry is not an easy option, the correct approach to study can make it an extremely rewarding and enjoyable subject.

HOW IS THE CHEMISTRY COURSE TAUGHT?

Chemistry has a large practical content and much of your time is spent in the laboratory. The teaching style is quite different from the G.C.S.E. course and students are encouraged to adopt a responsible ownership of their learning, and to take advantage of the enormous Information Technology potential available at our College.

As part of the course, experiences in lectures, seminars, practical laboratory work, one-to-one support, presentations and encouragement to see Chemistry in the wider economic and social context can be expected. Chemistry at Beauchamp has been a strong and successful department for many years and this has continued through the first half of this decade in the new millennium. We look forward to continuing success and enjoyment for our students.

“Simply brilliant. If you enjoyed G.C.S.E., A level is even better”

“It is hard work, but enjoyable. Do not do it if you want an easy life!”

“Steady, week by week work is the key to success”

“I enjoyed G.C.S.E. science, but A level chemistry is much better”

“It is important to start to work hard from the outset”

“I really liked the more informal atmosphere created between students and teachers”

Past results at A-level Chemistry:

YEAR	%A-B	%A-E
2007	40	97
2006	51	93
2005	57	98
2004	44	94
2003	50	96
2002	53	98

Module Details / Course Summary

More detail can be found at Edexcel Advanced Chemistry.

AS:

1. Atomic Structure, Structure and Bonding, Periodic Table, atom economy.
2. Energy in chemistry, Kinetics, Introduction to Organic Chemistry and Industrial Chemistry. Green chemistry, sustainability, Solvents.
3. Chemistry laboratory skills based on the content of Units 1 and 2

A2:

4. More work on energy and the Periodic Table, Acids and Bases, equilibria, NMR, GC, HPLC and further Organic Chemistry.
5. Transition Metal Chemistry, period 3 and group 4 chemistry, and more advanced work on Redox, Organic Chemistry and Kinetics.
6. Chemistry laboratory skills based on the content of Units 1 and 2