NOWER HILL HIGH SCHOOL

Service not self

CHEMISTRY A LEVEL - Edexcel

Who is the course for?

A level Chemistry is suitable if you:
Have an interest in, and enjoy Chemistry.
Want to find out about how things work in the real world.
Enjoy applying your mind to solving problems.
Want to use Chemistry to progress onto further studies in Higher Education, support other qualifications or enter chemistry-based employment.

What will I study?

Whilst many job opportunities specifically using Chemistry require higher qualifications, most laboratory-based jobs benefit from a Chemistry qualification, for instance dental assistant or veterinary assistant. More generally, employers in any field view success at A level Chemistry as a clear indication of strong academic ability.

Many university courses have a significant proportion of Chemistry content and an A level in Chemistry is excellent preparation for such further study. In addition, a number of other courses either specifically require or find it desirable. These include courses such as Chemical Engineering, Medicine, Veterinary Medicine, Biological Sciences, Environmental Science, Pharmacy and Dentistry.

What can it lead to?

A level Chemistry will help you understand the fascinating world of chemistry. The course is generally divided into three strands: Organic, physical and inorganic.

The A level qualification can be awarded at the end of year 13 following **three** exams sat at the end of year 13.

How will I be assessed?

Edexcel Specification
Exams 100%
A level consists of 3 papers at the end of year 13.

What are the entry requirements?

Students must achieve grade 6 or above in GCSE Chemistry and grades 5 or above in both GCSE Biology and GCSE Physics OR at least Grades 8-7 in Combined Science. Although it is not compulsory to study A level Maths alongside A level Chemistry, it is strongly advised. A number of university degree courses do stipulate the need for both A level Chemistry and A level Maths.

Due to the difficult nature of this subject a test will be set after the first three weeks of teaching. This will be based on GCSE content, summer work and content covered in class during the first three weeks. One re-sit opportunity will also be given but if a student does not pass this test then it will not be possible to continue on the course. This test has been introduced based on clear evidence which shows that students who struggle with the initial content often fail to attain a GCE pass at E or above.

How will I be taught?

There are 5 hours of lesson time per week and a further 5 hours of private study. Lessons consist of teacher explanation, practical work, student questioning and exam preparation.

Homework: 5 hours per week. Two pieces per week – one from each teacher. The work will include short answer questions, data handling exercises, experimental write up, on-line learning modules and reading.

What equipment or materials do I need?

Text books to purchase will be advised prior to commencing the course. We also recommend that students purchase their own lab coat and safety spectacles.

Ofsted Outstanding Provider