

A Level Chemistry at Carmel

CARMEL COLLEGE  VI

Careers

Chemistry is a very useful 'general' qualification as, like all of the sciences, it develops the skills of planning, evidence gathering, analysis and critical thinking. Higher Education courses for which chemistry is especially useful (or essential) include:

Environmental Science

Biological sciences

Medicine

Veterinary medicine

Chemical engineering

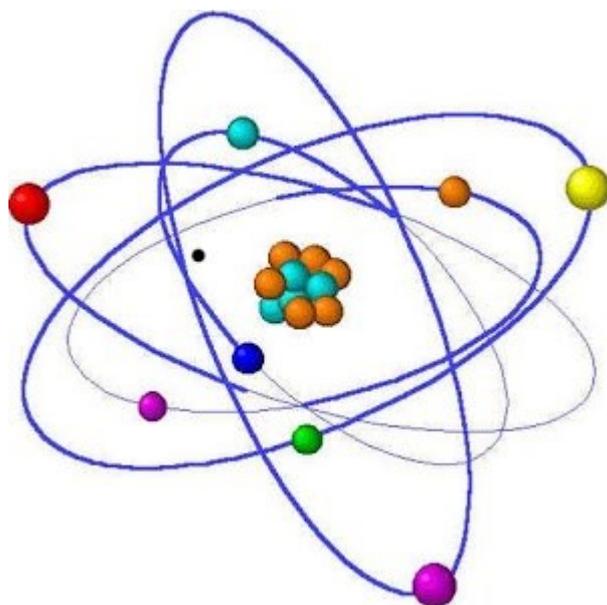
Pharmacy and Biochemistry.

This list is by no means extensive however, and there are a huge number of other degree courses (not necessarily science-based) which look favourably on students able to offer A level chemistry as a qualification.

Before we begin...

A level Chemistry follows on very closely from GCSE, so it would be useful for you to re-familiarise yourself with your GCSE notes before embarking on chemistry in the sixth form. In addition there will be a bridging task to complete over the summer before you begin.

A Level Chemistry



Course Outline



 VI

The Department

A level Chemistry is taught by experienced and well qualified staff and each group is taught by 2 members of staff. There are dedicated chemistry labs in college plus a preparation room.

There is also a study/resource room in the science department, mainly for the use of sixth form students with a variety of resource material for A level sciences. Networked computer facilities are available.

The Requirements

Due to the demanding nature of the course, the minimum requirement for the study of A Level chemistry is two B grades from GCSE Science or a B in GCSE chemistry. Also, a B or above in Maths is required.

The Syllabus

We currently follow the OCR Specification A in chemistry.

There are excellent specification-specific textbooks available to support your learning, along with a variety of other text- and ICT-based resources.

Practical Work

At Carmel we aim to develop a wide range of practical skills throughout the two years in VI form. We believe that there are many opportunities to learn through practical activities and their interpretation. Students are encouraged to work in small groups and also independently.

Teaching

During sixth form lessons you will experience various teaching methods and styles such as demonstrations, practical activities, lectures, handouts, ICT work and one-to-one support.

Learning.

You will be expected to work much more on your own than you did at GCSE and to take a greater responsibility for your own learning so that you will develop into an independent learner. There are some important skills that A level students need to become accomplished in: organising time, coping with workload, note-taking, reading around the subject and being self-motivated.

You will need to spend **AT LEAST** five hours per week in personal study. During this time it is important to read books, journals and scientific papers and to research relevant material that is of interest to you.

Course Content

A brief summary of course content

Year 12

Atomic structure

Bonding

Energy

Redox

Group 2 and group 7 chemistry

Equilibrium

Reaction rates

Organic chemistry

Green chemistry

Year 13

Reaction kinetics

Equilibria

Acids and bases

Electrode potentials

Transition elements

Aromatics

Polymers

Amines

Carbonyls

Beginning

At the beginning of the course, each student will be given details of:

- A text book
- A Specification
- Health and safety information