

# OCR Nationals Science Case Study 6

“OCR’s Science Nationals are taught in context giving a purpose to science”



CTC Kingshurst Academy  
Birmingham

Number of students: 1631

## Key Feedback

- **Relevance** – Students carry out a range of tasks that are practical in nature and relevant to the workplace.
- **Individual study routes** – Nationals allow the curriculum to be accessible and individualised for all students, as they can be delivered to suit any learning style. Any type of evidence can be used providing it meets the assessment/grading criteria.
- **Flexible for both students and teachers** – There is a choice of optional units allowing students to study what interests them and schools to develop particular specialisms, giving greater teacher fulfilment.
- **Wide range of units** – Students receive a broad science education which provides skills for further education and employment.
- **Personal achievement** – Students can recognise their own accomplishments and fulfil their potential. OCR Nationals give them a greater breadth of opportunities.
- **No examinations** – Students are motivated to study knowing they can gain a recognised Science qualification by completing a portfolio of work, without the need to sit an exam.
- **Excellent success rate** – Kingshurst obtains a 96% pass rate for about 240 students a year, with around 10% gaining Distinction and 40% gaining Merit.

[www.ocrnationals.com](http://www.ocrnationals.com)

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OCR  
**Nationals**

# Science Case Study 6

“Students end up with a portfolio of work – a concrete outcome that shows their accomplishments.”

Richard Parkes, Head of Science,  
CTC Kingshurst Academy, Birmingham



## OCR Science Nationals – a great success with our students

Kingshurst was a key partner in developing Science Nationals with OCR, and the results have been impressive. The qualification was written by practising teachers and the outcome is a flexible, relevant course which can be easily adapted to include individual ideas, interests or specialisms. Students become concerned about their education – they become more motivated and their ambition is enhanced as they experience a course which provides progression towards career aspirations.

### Individuality

Because content can be delivered at an individual level continual assessment is easier. Students can be tracked and addressed as individuals – instant reporting can be undertaken, with remedies put in place if needed. The qualification is producing Individual Learners with skills and understanding that are easily transferable and will equip them for further learning.

### Quality

With Nationals, every assessment has to be passed to obtain the qualification. Every student has to have **all** the knowledge, understanding and skills specified in the qualification. Skills required for continual learning can be embedded in the qualification, which means that individuals are prepared for life-long learning.

## Qualification Overview

Science Nationals aims to:

- Develop learners' knowledge and understanding of the science sector
- Increase skills, knowledge and understanding that will improve learners' current employment status, employability and/or progression to further study
- Develop learners' ability to work autonomously and effectively
- Enable learners to develop knowledge and skills in specialist areas – helping them to understand real science organisations
- Promote interaction between employers, centres and learners.

Features:

- Centre-assessed and externally moderated by OCR
- No timetabled exams – candidates complete units at a time that suits the centre
- Grades are Pass, Merit or Distinction.

**For other OCR Nationals qualifications, see our website.**

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