



AS/A Level Chemistry A

(Available for teaching from September 2008)

This course has been designed to enable centres to deliver the designated units using the framework provided or to design a customised course. This flexible approach is also reflected in the assessment model.

The specification is divided into chemical topics, each containing different key concepts of Chemistry. Once the key features of a chemical topic have been developed, applications are considered. For assessment purposes, knowledge and understanding of key concepts are treated separately at AS; important links between different areas of chemistry are largely assessed synoptically at A2. While the teaching of practical skills may be integrated with the theoretical topics, they are assessed separately. This allows skills to be developed in a way suited to each individual centre.



What are the benefits to me and my students of delivering this OCR specification?

- This specification has been developed in consultation with the Royal Society of Chemistry, GlaxoSmithKline and a large variety of teachers in OCR Centres throughout the country.
- There is an increased emphasis on understanding and application rather than recall.
- How Science Works integrated within the learning outcomes/opportunities.
- Straightforward assessment of practical skills using OCR set tasks with specific (non-hierarchical) mark schemes.
- Course builds upon the existing popular OCR Chemistry course. Has been updated in response to modern developments in chemistry and also the impact of chemistry on modern society and resources.

AS Level

Mandatory/Optional?	Unit title and description	Assessment method and weighting
Mandatory	F321: Atoms, Bonds and Groups <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Atoms and Reactions• Electrons, Bonding and Structure• The Periodic Table	1 hour written exam AS Level – 30% A Level – 15%
Mandatory	F322: Chains, Energy and Resources <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Basic Concepts and Hydrocarbons• Alcohols, Halogenoalkanes and Analysis• Energy• Resources	1 hour 45 min written exam AS Level – 50% A Level – 25%
Mandatory	F323: Practical Skills in Chemistry 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• AS internal assessment	Internal assessment AS Level – 20% A Level – 10%

A2 Level

Mandatory/Optional?	Unit title and description	Assessment method and weighting
Mandatory	F324: Rings, Polymers and Analysis <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rings, Acids and Amines• Polymers and Synthesis• Analysis	1 hour written exam A Level – 15%
Mandatory	F325: Equilibria, Energetics and Elements <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rates, Equilibrium and pH• Energy• Transition Elements	1 hour 45 min written exam A Level – 25%
Mandatory	F326: Practical Skills in Chemistry 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A2 internal assessment	Internal assessment A Level – 10%

How is this qualification assessed?

Two units at AS and A2 level are assessed through written examination.

One unit at AS and A2 level are assessed through internal assessment.

All written paper units are available in both January and June series.

Practical skills units are available in the June series only.

Dates of first examinations

AS

Atoms, Bonds and Groups – Jan 2009

Chains, Energy and Resources – Jun 2009

Practical Skills in Chemistry 1 – Jun 2009

A2

Rings, Polymers and Analysis – Jan 2010

Equilibria, Energetics and Elements – Jun 2010

Practical Skills in Chemistry 2 – Jun 2010

What support will I receive?

Training

A series of OCR courses to introduce the new specification will be available as well as an annual INSET programme to support teachers and provide feedback on recent examinations.

Publishers

Developed in close consultation with OCR, Heinemann is publishing materials for the 2008 A Level Chemistry A specification.

Resources

You will be able to download all the following resources from the OCR website – www.ocr.org.uk.

- Schemes of Work
- Teachers' and Technicians' guide
- Sample Assessment Materials.

For more information please contact the OCR Customer Contact Centre
on **01223 553998**, or visit www.ocr.org.uk