



Pre-entry Preparation, Requirements and Recommendations

Welcome to A-Level Chemistry at Comberton Sixth Form.

Preparation

For your background preparation we ask you to do the following task before the start of the course:

1. **Complete the transition pack.** If you have more time, re-read the Chemistry sections of your revision guide over the summer holidays, focusing on the separate award Chemistry content. These modules provide direct preparation for the A-Level Chemistry course.
2. If you have studied GCSE Trilogy Science then reading through the Chemistry separate GCSE content is essential preparation as the Chemistry GCSE extra content provides the most direct preparation for the A-Level Chemistry course. Areas to look at are the quantitative chemistry and ensure you understand the calculations sections as well as organic chemistry where extra material taught will be assumed knowledge at A level. You may wish to purchase a GCSE Chemistry revision guide for example the CGP GCSE Chemistry revision guide (ISBN 978-1847626240) to help you.

Recommendations

The course book for the New OCR A-Level specification is available (ISBN 978-0198351979) The course that you will be studying is "*OCR Chemistry A H432*", although this book does contain some mistakes students can find it useful. It is also good to have an additional textbook which covers the full A level to get an idea of the links between AS and A-Level chemistry beyond just OCR specification, the one we recommend is "*Chemistry in Context by Graham Hill*" (ISBN 978-1-4085-1496-2). It is also useful to have a book to help with the mathematics skills, we recommend "*Calculations in AS/ A level Chemistry by Jim Clark*" (ISBN 978-0582411272). This book is vital if you are not studying A level maths or find the mathematics of chemistry more challenging.

You will also need the following equipment: Folders, lined writing paper, graph paper, pens, HB pencil for graph drawing, ruler, felt tips or highlighter pens, a flexi-curve for graph drawing, a scientific calculator (this is also very useful as well for the Biology, Physics and Maths courses).

You will also need a **lab coat and safety goggles** for all practical work. The lab coat must have poppers not buttons. These can be purchased from places like Amazon.

Throughout the year you will be provided with worksheets and information packs to help consolidate your knowledge and understanding.

If you have any questions about the Chemistry course please contact Dr Suzanne Smith (Head of Chemistry) susmith@combertonvc.org