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Chemistry

A-level

Introduction

Chemistry is the science which bridges the gaps between most other sciences, be they physical or biological. It answers questions such as: "How do chemicals react?" and "Why, when combined, do some chemicals go 'Bang!' while others largely ignore one another?" Without chemistry, there would be no new drug developments, indeed no new materials of any kind, whether for fashion or for stopping a speeding bullet. In short: Chemistry = Essential Science.

Why Chemistry?

Chemistry helps us to understand and change the world in which we live, from the way our bodies work to the effects on our environment of human activity. It is an interesting subject even if you don't intend to use it as a stepping-stone, and it complements many other subjects, particularly Biology and Physics but also Maths, Geography and Geology. Chemistry is an essential A-level for a host of degree courses, including Medicine, Veterinary Sciences, Pharmacy and Dentistry.

Chemistry is a highly thought of A-level course. It encourages your thinking skills and shows that you are a logical thinker who can solve problems and apply knowledge to new situations. For this reason, employers and universities have a high opinion of people who have taken Chemistry A-level.

Any special requirements?

If students have taken Separate Sciences at GCSE, they must have achieved grade 6 or above in Chemistry plus one other from Biology or Physics. If students have taken Combined Science at GCSE, it is desirable that students have achieved grade 7 or above. As the maths content of the new A-level course is quite substantial, students should also have at least a grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics.

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