

Chemistry Higher

Why take this course?

Higher Chemistry provides a coherent progression from National 5 Chemistry. Students will develop a detailed knowledge and understanding of a variety of topics and practical experiments will allow students to develop an evidence-based approach to their learning. The scientific literacy, verbal and written communication, numeracy and analytical skills developed during this course are transferable across subjects and will be invaluable for life, learning and work.

To succeed in this course, you need...

You would be expected to have National 5 Chemistry at Grades A-C. Literacy and numeracy skills equivalent to Higher are essential.

Course structure and Content

This course develops scientific understanding of issues relating to Chemistry, and uses the development of chemical theory to provide you with an extensive set of skills. Through application of a detailed knowledge and understanding of chemical concepts, in practical situations, you will develop an appreciation of the impact of chemistry on everyday life.

Unit 1 Chemical Changes and Structure

Unit 2 Nature's Chemistry

Unit 3 Chemistry in Society

Researching Chemistry

Course Assessment

The course assessment has two components:

- Exam paper (120 marks)
- Chemistry related assignment (20 marks).

The question paper will assess your breadth of knowledge, understanding and skills accumulated across the course. The question paper will be set and marked by SQA.

The assignment will assess the application of skills of scientific inquiry and related chemistry knowledge and understanding, and must include a practical element. This will be set, researched and completed within school but is externally marked by SQA.

Where might this course take me?

This course develops skills in problem solving, analysis and evaluation which are useful in a wide range of careers and further study. The assignment gives you an experience of planning and carrying out an independent project, which is part of many university courses. The scientific skills developed and knowledge gained are particularly useful for those wishing to pursue careers or study in medicine, veterinary medicine, dentistry, engineering, chemical engineering, pharmaceuticals, forensics, geology, mining, energy, the food, oil and gas industries and the manufacture of plastics.

Passing this course with Grade A or B is recommended in order to progress on to the Advanced Higher Chemistry course.