



## A LEVEL CHEMISTRY OCR SALTERS B COURSE

### What does the course involve?

This course will give you an exciting insight into the contemporary world of chemistry and covers a range of different contexts. The combination of academic challenge, relevant context and practical focus makes this a rigorous and interesting approach to the study of chemistry. It will prepare students for university while offering innovative teaching methods like the use of online resources and methods of self-assessment. It is interesting, relevant and demanding and yet is accessible to a wide range of students. Students will have the opportunity of developing transferable skills including investigating, problem solving, research, decision making, mathematical skills and analytical skills, as well as improving their prowess in the manipulation of apparatus.

The course covers a range of different contexts taught in a “spiral” format, where topics are revisited in greater detail as the course progresses. Year 12 covers 5 Storylines which group together topics according to context – Elements of Life, Developing Fuels, Elements from the Sea, The Ozone Story and What’s in a Medicine? Students will study atomic structure, quantitative chemistry, bonding, energetics, kinetics and equilibria, periodicity, the alkaline earth metals, the halogens, alkanes, haloalkanes, alkenes, alcohols and analysis. Year 13 consists of another five Storylines – The Chemical Industry, Polymers and Life, Oceans, Developing Metals and Colour by Design. Students will study thermodynamics, rate equations, equilibria, electrical cells, transition metals, carbonyl chemistry, aromatic compounds, amines, polymers, amino acids, organic synthesis and structure determination.

Coursework has been removed, so practical work does not count towards the final A level grade. There will, however, be many practical sessions that will be used to prepare students for questions on practical work within exam papers. Students will also be assessed on their practical ability in lessons and this will be recorded separately as the Practical Endorsement, which will be marked as Pass or Fail.

There are three exams for the A level course.

### What are the entry qualifications?

The minimum entry requirements are GCSE Chemistry grade 6 or above or GCSE Combined Science grades 6,6 and GCSE Mathematics grade 6 or above. Desirable entry requirements include grade 6 or above in GCSE Biology or GCSE Physics and a grade 5 or above in English Language.

Conditional places may also be available, subject to showing a real interest in Chemistry and an ambition to get on in this subject. A set of essential chemistry questions will be set over the summer holiday to ensure everyone is at the level required. Conditional students would need to show enough progress in the first term to continue thereafter.

**What could I do after completing the course?**

OCR A level Salters B Chemistry is an excellent base for a university degree in healthcare such as medicine, pharmacy and dentistry as well as chemistry, the biological sciences, physics, mathematics, pharmacology and analytical chemistry. Chemistry is also taken by many law applicants as it shows you can cope with difficult concepts. Chemistry can also complement a number of arts subjects. The problem-solving skills are useful in areas such as finance.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT MISS M LAMPORT, TEAM LEADER FOR CHEMISTRY.**