Why A Level Chemistry?

Sixth Form Open Evening 2022

St Ambrose College

"Walking in the footsteps of Edmund Rice"

Because you enjoy it

- Chemistry A level is designed to follow on from GCSE Chemistry.
- There is a greater emphasis on formulas, equations and chemical calculations
- Re-visit familiar topics like Rates of Reaction and Bonding and Structure

For the future

- A good (and often required) choice for students considering careers in the health and clinical professions, including medicine, veterinary science, nursing, dentistry and forensic science.
- Prepares students for numerous other careers as it develops a number of desirable skills, (allowing you to keep your options open!)
- Follow the QI code above for further information on the careers that Chemistry can lead to.

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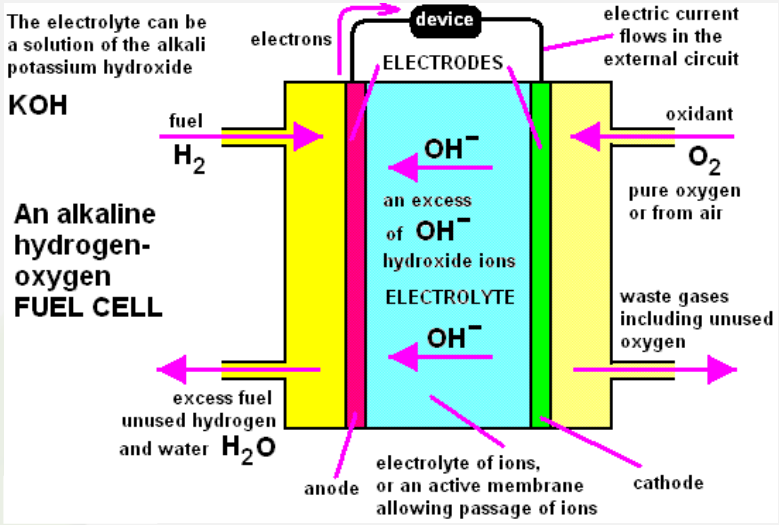
For the challenge

- A-level Chemistry is designed to be rigorous, while maintaining fair and balanced question papers. This includes testing synoptic understanding, knowledge of How Science Works and providing stretch and challenge.
- The problem-solving skills developed will be applicable to **many career pathways** in or outside science



Because it fits

- Chemistry fits well with other Science A levels and most boys take Chemistry in combination with at least one of Biology, Physics and Mathematics.

- There is some overlap in content with Biology A level and also with Physics .

For the practical

- Students are required to complete a number of standard practical experiments (at least 6 per year) along with many other practicals that we also carry out.
- The required practicals are assessed during the written exam papers.
- Typically 15% of lessons would be related to practical tasks and double lessons are assigned.

For the teaching

- We are fortunate to possess a very experienced and settled staff.
- All A level teachers have in excess of 16 years experience teaching AQA Chemistry at A level.
- You will be taught by 2 teachers from Dr Berry, Mr Elwell or Mr Gwyer

For the grades

- Consistently among the best in the college.
- Over the 9 years prior to the Pandemic the average A* to B pass rate was 80%.
- In the most recent exam year (2022) the average was 82% - An increase despite the national figure decreasing.

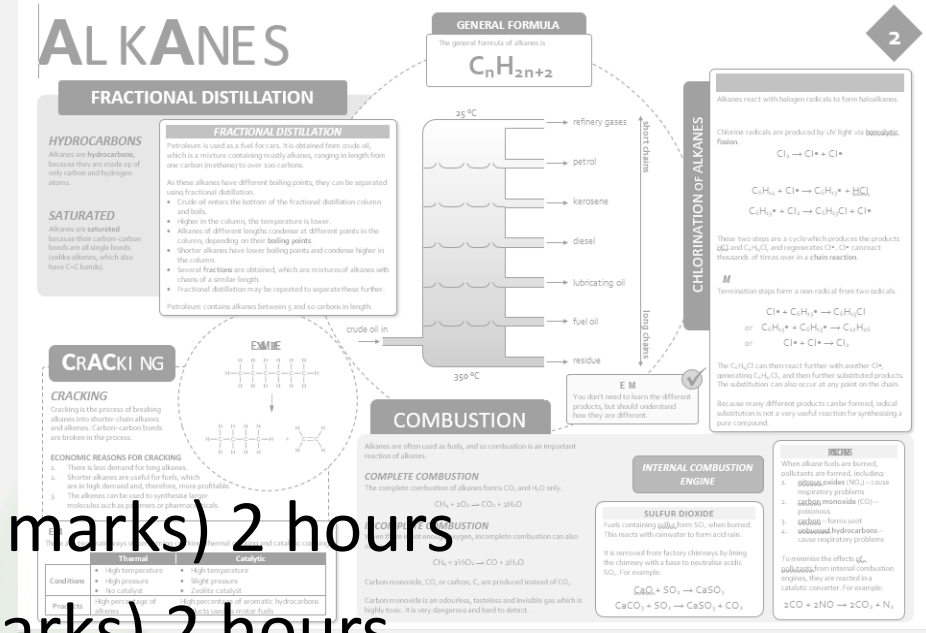
Think its for you?

- You will need at least a **grade 7 in GCSE Chemistry** or 7,7 in Combined Science
- The high level of numeracy required suggests that you will also have a **grade 7 in GCSE Mathematics**.
- Be prepared to work hard.

Group Sizes

- Currently around 50 boys in 3 groups in both year 12 and 13.

Course Structure



- A Level
- Paper 1 Physical and Inorganic Chemistry (105 marks) 2 hours
- Paper 2 Physical and Organic Chemistry(105 marks) 2 hours
- Paper 3 Any content (90 marks) 2 hours
- 12 compulsory practicals to be assessed in the written papers

ALL EXAMS IN SUMMER SESSION

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A-level assessment in more detail

Paper 1: Inorganic and Physical chemistry	Paper 2: Organic and Physical chemistry	Paper 3: Practical skills, data handling and synopsis
Content • Inorganic chemistry • Relevant practical skills • Relevant physical chemistry topics eg: – Atomic structure – Amount of substance – Bonding – Energetics – Equilibria – Acids and bases – Redox	**Content** • Organic chemistry • Relevant practical skills • Relevant physical chemistry topics eg: – Amount of substance – Bonding – Energetics – Equilibria – Kinetics	**Content** • All content • All practical skills
Questions • 105 marks, with a mixture of short and long answer questions	**Questions** • 105 marks, with a mixture of short and long answer questions	**Questions** • 40 marks of questions on practical techniques and data analysis • 20 marks of questions testing across the specification • 30 marks of multiple choice questions

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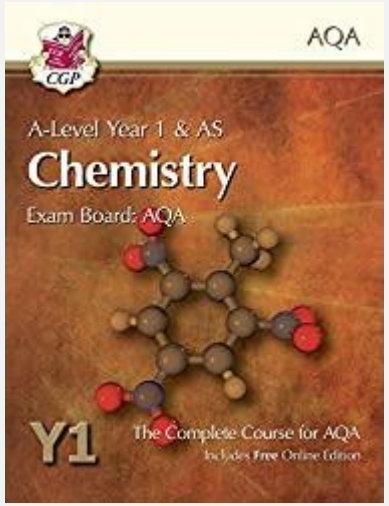
Support



- Self-completion notes and past exam questions on shared area
- AQA specific textbook
- Regular assessment using past paper questions
- Individual intervention packs for students struggling to meet target grades
- After-school help sessions
- Drop in clinic available on Monday lunchtime
- Individual support as and when needed – just ask

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