

Why study Chemistry?

At key stage 5, Chemistry is a fascinating subject. We take a journey beyond simply the what and how of chemical processes and delve into why they happen. By understanding why trends and reactions occur you will be able to make predictions of how substances will react. We spend a significant amount of time supporting the theory with practical investigations and developing laboratory skills.

Through studying chemistry, as well as developing a greater knowledge and understanding of the science, you will gain the skills and resilience to solve complex problems. You will also learn to add a depth to your answers proving a solid understanding of chemistry. These skills are held in high regard when making applications to universities.

An A-level in Chemistry opens the door to a huge range of further careers including medical, veterinary and academic science, as well as any course requiring a resilient and logical approach to problem solving.

The most common question when considering studying chemistry are "is it harder than GCSE?" The academic demands are significant, however a diligent student who engages with the range of learning activities and is prepared to get stuck-in, and potentially get stuck, will reap the rewards. We pride ourselves on the support available to chemistry students at Ysgol John Bright. As a prospective key stage 5 chemist, it is vital to retain your GCSE books and any revision guides you might have as the skills and knowledge are all carried forward and built upon. The course is available to students achieving a minimum of a B-grade at GCSE, as the progression from GCSE relies on a significant volume of prior knowledge.

What will this involve?

AS (year 12) culminates in two examinations worth 40% of the total grade, and A2 has two examinations and a shorter practical examination and write up. A2 comprises 60% of the course.

For further info please contact Mrs G Moules - g.moules@johnbright.uk (CF10 - teaching room) or Mr T. Laws - t.laws@johnbright.uk (CF9 teaching room).

"It's a challenge, but it's worth it!" - Fran - Year 12

Where do I go from here?

Chemistry provides an excellent opportunity for those who wish to follow a scientific career, either through employment or further studies at a university or college.

Chemistry is essential for the study of Medicine, Pharmacy, Forensic Science and Veterinary Science. It is also a useful addition for the study of Engineering, Food Technology, Physics, Biology, Textiles, Architecture and many other subjects. Whether you intend to follow a Chemistry related career or not, the skills you acquire in WJEC Chemistry will fully prepare you to make the most of any future university or college course.