



Chemistry

1. Expectations for success are:

That you are hard-working and completing at least 5 hours of independent study each week: some of this will be directed by your teacher as homework but you should also be reading around the subject, making extra notes and revising content throughout the year. You will need to be fully engaged in lessons, getting actively involved in the range of learning activities taking place.

2. The characteristics of an outstanding student in this subject are:

- Punctual and reliable: you arrive on time, fully equipped and ready to learn. If you miss a lesson it is up to you to catch up on the work that you missed.
- Well organised: folders of notes and practical books need to be comprehensively completed and kept in a tidy and ordered manner. Your practical book will be your evidence towards achieving the *Practical Endorsement* and good quality notes will be essential for success in the examinations.
- Diligent: homework assignments need to be completed on time and to the required standard. Observations and measurements must be recorded with precision using the correct chemical terminology and units.
- Self-motivating and pro-active: you are expected to complete your learning through independent study and wider reading to develop your knowledge and identify areas of poor understanding.
- Responsive to feedback: you should always be willing to improve by acting upon feedback from teachers and peers.
- Methodical: you can follow complex instructions for practical procedures, carrying these out with due regard for safety and handling equipment with a high degree of manual dexterity.
- Adaptable: you are able to apply theoretical work to a variety of new situations.
- Meticulous: problems requiring calculations show answers with all workings clearly laid out, the correct units are displayed and answers have the appropriate number of decimal places or significant figures. Written answers and assignments are presented in a well structured manner and ensure all expected points are included, expressed clearly and all key words are used in the correct context.

Chemistry	OCR Chemistry A: http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as-a-level-gce-chemistry-a-h032-h432-from-2015/
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On the website above you will find the course specification along with sample assessment materials and other resources. Past papers from the older OCR A specification can be found on the OCR website too and we recommend students complete these during their independent study as the content and style of the questions will be very similar. Mark schemes and examiner's reports are also available and should be used to help you assess yourself, pick up tips, and learn to use the correct terminology in order to maximise the marks your answers are awarded.

3. Wider Reading List

- Catalyst; The Mole (a student booklet sent with Education in Chemistry)
- The New Scientist.
- Nature's Building Blocks: An A-Z guide to the elements - J Emsley, OUP, ISBN: 979-0-19850-340-8
- Why Chemical Reactions Happen - J Keeler & P Woethers, OUP, ISBN: 978-0-19924-973-2
- Why don't Penguin's Feet Freeze?:(and 114 other questions) - M O'Hare, Profile Books, ISBN: 978-1-86197-786-9
- The Periodic Table - P Levi, Penguin Books, ISBN: 978-0-14-029661-7