

Presenting our new AS and A level Chemistry qualifications

The new Pearson Edexcel Chemistry specifications are available for AS and A level. These are **linear** qualifications. All examination papers must be taken in the same series.

The specification is divided into **several** topics.

The topics for AS Chemistry are the same as those for the first year of A level, so that the two specifications are **co-teachable**.

AS:
Available in summer.
**First assessment
summer 2016**

A level:
Available in summer.
**First assessment
summer 2017**



What you told us you wanted from the new AS and A level Chemistry:

- 'Question papers that focus on particular topics, so students can focus their revision. Could we have the organic topics in the same paper and not split up?'
- 'A bit less rote learning, and some questions – like those in the current Unit 5 – that give them a bit of a challenge.'
- 'Fewer multiple choice questions – 20 is too many!'
- 'Some guidance on practicals that you think we should do with our students.'



AS

Both papers include assessment of maths and practical skills.

Paper 1

50% weighting



1 hour
and 30
minutes

**80
marks**

Covers
half the AS
content

[Find out more](#)

Paper 2

50% weighting



1 hour
and 30
minutes

**80
marks**

Covers
half the AS
content

[Find out more](#)

Note:

AS is a **stand-alone** qualification.

Marks achieved on AS papers do **not** form part of the final A level grade.

New assessment of practical skills

A level is 100% externally assessed (no coursework)



Core practicals appear in the specification content; **practical-based questions** are also in the exams.



Teacher-assessed **practical competency**, based on core practical activities, reported alongside the A level grade.

[Find out more](#)

A level

All papers include assessment of maths.

Paper 3 includes assessment of practical skills.

Paper 1

30% weighting



1 hour
and 45
minutes

**90
marks**

Covers half the A level topics and some AS content

[Find out more](#)

Paper 2

30% weighting



1 hour
and 45
minutes

**90
marks**

Covers half the A level topics and some AS content

[Find out more](#)

Paper 3

40% weighting



2 hours
and 30
minutes

**120
marks**

Covers all AS and A level topics

[Find out more](#)

Assessing mathematical skills



Makes up **20%** of the assessment and AS at A level.



Maths needs to be assessed at **Level 2** (GCSE Higher tier) **or above**.

How AS and A level Chemistry will be assessed



AS paper 1

- Atomic structure and the periodic table
- Bonding and structure
- Redox I
- Inorganic chemistry and the periodic table
- Formulae, equations and amounts of substance
- Experimental methods (including questions on core practicals)

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AS paper 2

- Formulae, equations and amounts of substance
- Bonding and structure
- Organic chemistry I
- Modern analytical techniques I
- Energetics I
- Kinetics I
- Equilibrium I
- Experimental methods (including questions on core practicals)

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A level paper 1

- Equilibrium II
- Acid-base equilibria
- Energetics II
- Redox II
- Transition metals
- Some AS content

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A level paper 2

- Kinetics II
- Organic chemistry II
- Organic chemistry III
- Modern analytical techniques II
- Some AS content

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A level paper 3

- General paper assessing across the AS and A level qualifications
- Experimental methods (including questions on core practicals)

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Practical assessment

- There are **16 core practicals** that cover all of the **12 techniques** required for the practical competency measure.
- Knowledge of all core practicals can be tested within exam papers.
- Core practicals form part of the practical competency assessment.

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