



NOTTINGHAM
GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL

GDST
GIRLS' DAY SCHOOL TRUST

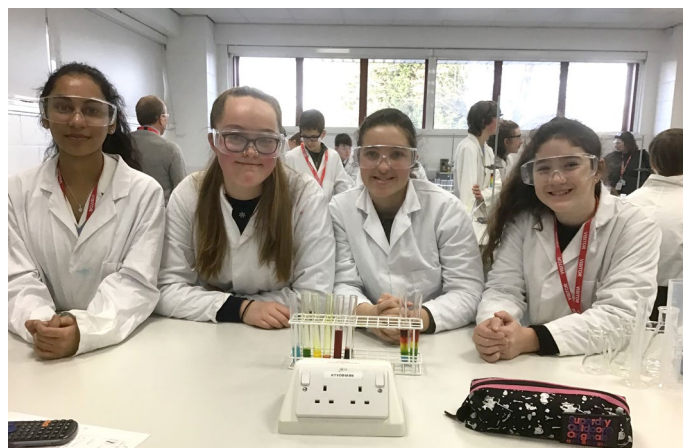
SIXTH FORM CURRICULUM GUIDE

CHEMISTRY

AQA

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

At least grade 7 in GCSE Chemistry or at least grade 7-7 in GCSE Combined Science, plus at least grade 7 in GCSE Mathematics.



"Chemistry is the bridge between the perceived world of substances and the imagined world of atoms."

Peter Atkins

Chemistry is the central science and impacts on all facets of our lives. An understanding of Chemistry is necessary to all other sciences from astronomy to zoology. All of the materials used by engineers and technologists are made by chemical reactions and we all experience chemical reactions continuously, whether it be breathing or baking a cake, driving a car or listening to a battery driven MP3 player. Chemistry is concerned with all aspects of molecules, their physical and chemical properties, their composition and structure, their synthesis and use in the 21st century.

"Chemistry has definitely been a big step up from GCSE but, after one year, I feel so much more confident and have a much better understanding."

Although Chemistry is not an easy option, the correct approach to study can make it an extremely rewarding and enjoyable subject. At A Level, you will build on the knowledge, understanding and skills developed at GCSE. Having a secure grasp of these skills and the concepts you have already learnt will give you a flying start to Year 12.

You will need to be rigorous in your approach to Chemistry - mastering the facts will give you the tools necessary to make links between topics and apply your knowledge to new situations. As part of this course, you will study aspects of Chemistry that are often in the media and affect our lives such as climate change, green Chemistry and pharmaceuticals. The course is structured so that you understand the underlying Chemistry and can evaluate these contemporary issues in an informed and meaningful way.

This will give you a better appreciation of how society makes decisions about scientific issues and how the sciences contribute to the success of the economy and society.

We take an investigative approach at NGHS, allowing you to develop your practical skills alongside theoretical knowledge. You will learn how to carry out standard procedures such as titrations and organic preparations, as well as making, recording and communicating observations and analysing results. You will be able to use your data to provide evidence for the concepts you are studying. They say 'seeing is believing' and this approach makes the theory come to life.

The study of Chemistry opens up innumerable career prospects: anatomy, agricultural science, beauty therapy, biochemistry, biology, physics, engineering, chemistry, dentistry, food science, forestry, medicine, pathology, polymer science, veterinary science, zoology and many more.

Potential employers value the analytical and conceptual skills that are developed during the study of Chemistry. Such skills, coupled with the ability to work in a meticulous and accurate manner, enable Chemistry students to pursue careers within, or outside, the vast area of Science in fields as diverse as marketing and pharmaceutical research.

*Click here to watch the course introductory video
from Head of Chemistry, Mrs Vanessa Wilson-Wood.*

In order to join us in the Sixth Form, we require an average of grade 6 across eight GCSE subjects, including English and Mathematics. See individual subjects for any specific requirements for study at A Level.

For detailed course information on all of the A Level subjects please visit the AQA, Edexcel or OCR websites.

If you have any questions about any aspect of the admissions process, please call 0115 935 4444 or email admissions@not.gdst.net



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