

CAREERS INSPIRATION IN CHEMISTRY



National Careers Week

NCW



ROYAL SOCIETY
OF **CHEMISTRY**



Careers Inspiration In
CHEMISTRY
Inspire. Engage. Learn.

CONTENTS



Let's Get Started Fixing the Future	03
Challenging Opinions How Chemistry Rocks the Status Quo	04
Being the Catalyst Chemical Scientists Are Game-Changers in Real Life	05
Innovating Industry Every Sector Benefits From Advances in Chemistry	06
Employability Skills	08
What Will I Earn? How Much Will I Earn if I have a Career in Chemistry?	10
Do I Need Chemistry To...	11
Options for Higher Education	14
Your Options for Higher Education Qualifications	15
Additional HE qualifications	18
Going to University Things to Think About When Choosing a Degree	19
Things to Consider When Going to University	20
Why Chemistry?	22
Jobs that Use Chemistry	23



YOUR INSPIRATION TO A CAREER IN CHEMISTRY

This booklet has been put together by us at National Careers Week and the Royal Society of Chemistry because we want YOU to be able to see what fantastic things Chemistry does for us and how you could get involved in work and careers that use Chemistry. OK, you may be thinking that wearing a white coat and using a test tube all day isn't something for you...well, we wanted to change those stereotypes and help you to see some of the incredible roles and jobs which use Chemistry in the course of the working day. We are also delighted to be able to help you explore how those organisations improve peoples' lives and change the world for the better. In this booklet there are a number of self-assessment exercises, some video linked tasks and some signposts which will help you to see that whatever your careers interests may be - in a career using Chemistry or not - there is likely to be a pathway towards a job for you. This booklet will help you consider your skills and abilities for your future.

Are you Ready?

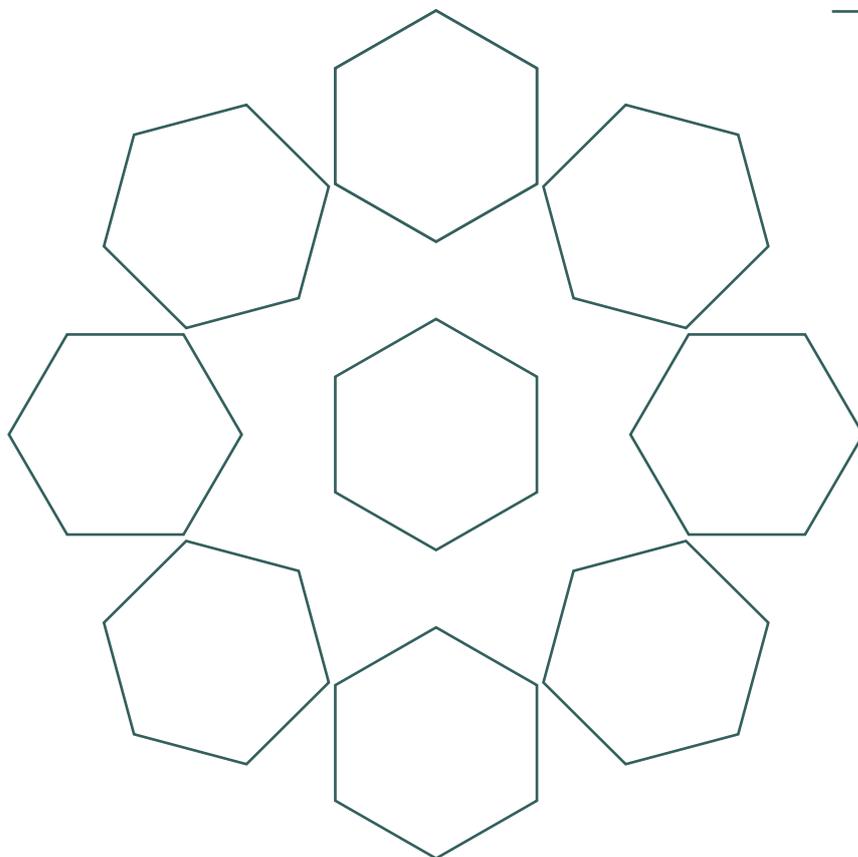


LET'S GET STARTED!

FIXING THE FUTURE

CHEMISTRY'S
ROLE IN SOLVING
GLOBAL ISSUES.

SCAN ME



VIDEO RESOURCE



View the videos and choose an issue and role.
What are the key attributes and skills required?

A large white rectangular area with horizontal green lines for writing. A small green circle is on the left side of the area. To the right, there is a partial diagram of a hexagonal molecular structure.

CHALLENGING OPINIONS

HOW CHEMISTRY ROCKS THE STATUS QUO

Chemistry uses scientific evidence to shake up attitudes, influence changes in our behaviour and find solutions to make things better or more efficient, whether it's what you eat and drink, how you travel or what you need to be well.



SCAN ME



VIDEO RESOURCE



BEING THE CATALYST

CHEMICAL SCIENTISTS ARE GAME-CHANGERS IN REAL LIFE

Thinking ahead, making a difference, being the spark that triggers change and inspires others – all are part of the world of chemistry. And this is as true in education, as it is in policy-making and business development.

Did you know there are many different job roles in Chemistry? Some you may never have even considered. They Include:

- Patent Attorney
- Scientific publisher
- Sustainability Manager
- Environmental Scientist
- Medicinal Chemist
- Museum Scientist
- Finance and Planning manager



CHEMISTRY HAS ALLOWED ME TO
UNLOCK A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING
OF THE WORLD AROUND ME



SCAN ME



FIND OUT MORE
HERE:

VIDEO RESOURCE

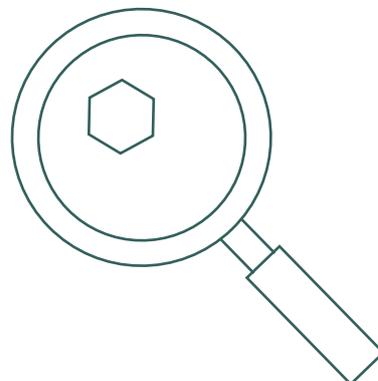


INNOVATING INDUSTRY

EVERY SECTOR BENEFITS FROM ADVANCES IN CHEMISTRY

MYTH BUSTER

Not all chemists work in white coats in labs: chemistry impacts just about every industry and area of business. It's behind the extraordinary innovation and technological advances that foster entrepreneurial spirit and regularly transform the industrial world.



FIND OUT MORE
HERE:

VIDEO RESOURCE 



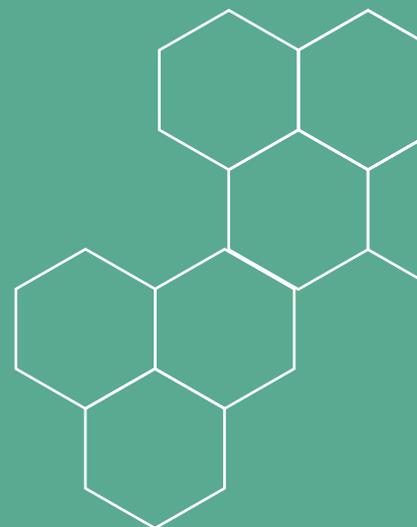
SCAN ME



CHANGING LIVES

CHEMISTRY'S GOOD FOR OUR HEALTH

There are so many areas of human and animal health – developing medicines, cutting air pollution, working in antibiotic resistance, progressing medical devices and prosthetics – in which chemistry plays a vital role, prolonging and improving life.



FIND OUT MORE
HERE: EDU.RSC.ORG

VIDEO RESOURCE



SCAN ME



Changing lives

Chemistry's good for our health

 Changing lives | A future in chemistry #MakingTheDifference

 Share



CHEMISTRY
CHANGING
LIVES.

EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS

Studying chemistry provides you with a whole range of useful skills and knowledge that are highly valued by employers in all sectors and in lots of different jobs. Let's examine the additional skills you might gain through studying chemistry:



SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL KNOWLEDGE

Obviously you will have specialised scientific and technical knowledge and this can be used in many jobs within science such as a research assistant or nanotoxicologist, or outside of the lab such as a patent attorney combining scientific knowledge with the specialist area of law. Having a technical or science background can be extremely attractive to employers, who may then wish to train you in another skill or discipline.

Science also teaches you how and why things happen or don't happen, and how things interact with each other through practical experiments. Being able to take a step back and look at the bigger picture to understand what is happening is a really useful skill that is useful in problem solving, developing logical thought processes, knowing how to pitch your ideas, time and project management as well as managing relationships and expectations. These skills are valued by lots of different employers both within and outside of science.



COMMUNICATION

This is an incredibly valuable skill in just about any type of work both in and out of science. From teaching to publishing to science communication to science policy where you can be talking to members of the public, young adults, politicians, to people who fund research, being able to communicate with different types of people is a vital skill in any type of work.

Your studies will have enabled you to communicate through written and spoken word when writing reports or technical papers or giving presentations (where you'll also have learnt presentation skills when discussing your research). If you have been involved in group work, extracurricular activities, supervising the work of others, teaching or outreach then you will have learnt how to talk about and break down technical concepts into language that non-scientists can understand. Being able to clearly explain and adapt how and what you say with audiences and teams of different abilities and knowledge is an important skill in business as individuals and companies tackle increasingly complex issues, including sustainability managers, researchers, policy researchers, chief chemists and many more.



NUMERACY

Essential in chemistry, this skill is valued by employers for many careers including accountancy, sales and marketing, retail and IT, to name just a few.



WORKING WITH OTHERS

Teamwork is another valuable skill gained through undertaking group project work and collaborating with others both in person and virtually. Science aims to solve big, complex problems and needs diverse groups of people who can quickly build productive work relationships and work together well, negotiate responsibilities or duties, persuade or influence others to see their point of view, or the value of their idea through pitching. In a team, you'll also have had to discuss and decide what order tasks need to be completed which is prioritisation. You will also have needed to manage your own and the team's time and resources to deliver against a deadline which is project management. By working through and completing your course, you will have started to develop management skills which could be developed further in a career. Working in a team shows lots of different skills and abilities to an employer.



LOGICAL THOUGHT PROCESSES AND PROBLEM SOLVING

You will have developed analytical thinking and problem solving skills through examining and interpreting results and making evaluations or recommendations based on limited information or data. Problem solving is an essential skill required at some level in almost all jobs including analytical chemist, medicinal chemist and in management consultancy.

Time management and organisation are shown by planning and executing experiments, undertaking individual and team project work, and completing a project or your dissertation, or working part-time during your studies. Through your studies, you will have managed your own workload so self-management is another skill you will have developed. You will also display logical thinking, the ability to learn new concepts and terminology quickly and attention to detail through monitoring and systematically recording chemical properties, data and findings, following health and safety processes and guidelines, or arranging events.



PROJECT AND TIME MANAGEMENT

You will have planned experiments and assignments, seen them through and made conclusions. You will have managed your time through producing work to deadlines as well as working with delays or unexpected surprises. You will also have developed data-handling skills and the ability to undertake research.

Resilience could well be another skill from when you had to try again and rethink a task or experiment, or received challenging feedback or faced a difficult situation.

You will have proved you are an independent thinker through conducting your own investigations and although you might not think it, you will have shown creativity and innovation in your work, as that is what chemistry is all about. Chemists have done things from founding their own skincare company to working with flavours and becoming a research innovation manager. There are so many options with the skills you gain through chemistry.



HANDLING DATA, SOFTWARE AND TECHNOLOGY

You will have learned to understand and use computer software/models (including AI), handling, collating and analysing large amounts of data, using spreadsheets, word processing, electronic communication and maybe even coding. All these skills can be used effectively in many jobs, from management to finance and marketing, through to IT or data science.

This all goes to show that a chemistry degree doesn't teach you just chemistry; the skills you will gain whilst studying are far broader and can provide a starting point for a whole range of careers.

WHAT WILL I EARN?

HOW MUCH WILL I EARN IF I HAVE A CAREER IN CHEMISTRY?



- The 2023 What Do Graduates Do report showed that the average salaries for chemistry graduates fifteen months after graduation is £25,593
- The Royal Society of Chemistry's 2021 Pay & Reward survey showed a median salary of £46,700 for member-respondents. Early career members earned a median salary of £34,000. The chemical sciences offers a high level of job security and stability with 70% of respondents saying they felt secure in their current job (up from 65% in 2019).
- Nearly 33% of all chemistry graduates in 19/20 became science professionals or associate professionals and technicians with roles in research and development in agrochemicals, petrochemicals, pharmaceuticals, plastics and toiletries.
- The chemical sciences contribute an average of £83 billion in economic output per year and many of these roles are in manufacturing and research and development roles, which can command higher salaries.
- There are estimated to have been 275,000 chemistry-using jobs in the UK in 2019, with a further 425,000 jobs supported by this workforce throughout the UK economy.
- Salaries depend on a large number of factors, including qualifications required, location, experience, size and type of the organisation.

SEE CHEMISTRY'S CONTRIBUTION:

WORKFORCE TRENDS AND ECONOMIC IMPACT



DO I NEED CHEMISTRY TO...



STUDY MEDICINE?

An A-level (or equivalent) in chemistry is essential if you want to study medicine. Biology, physics and maths are also recommended. Very good grades are certainly needed and relevant work experience will significantly increase your chances of gaining a place on a medicine degree course.

[Find out more about why chemistry is essential for studying medicine.](#)



BECOME A FORENSIC SCIENTIST?

Yes, you'll need an A-level (or equivalent) in chemistry as forensic scientists need a degree in chemistry, analytical chemistry or biology. This course provides a firm grounding in the laboratory techniques and analytical skills required. Ensure that the degree has enough lab time and chemistry content to satisfy future employers.



BECOME A DENTIST?

Normally chemistry and biology are required at A-level (or equivalent) if you wish to study dentistry. Studying maths and physics will also put you in a strong position.

[Find out more about why chemistry is essential for studying dentistry.](#)



BECOME A VET?

The qualifications needed to become a veterinary surgeon are similar to those for becoming a doctor. Chemistry is required at A-level (or equivalent), along with A-levels in biology or mathematics.



BECOME A PHARMACIST?

Chemistry A-level (or equivalent) is an entry requirement for many pharmacy courses, and is preferable for all institutions.

Many people confuse pharmacy with pharmacology. Pharmacists are involved in the dispensing of medicines and learn not only about the effects of different medicines and how they interact, but also about regulations related to dispensing. Pharmacologists study the effects of chemical compounds on humans and animals. They may work in clinical trials but often work as part of a research team developing new medicines.

[Find out more about why chemistry is essential for studying pharmacy.](#)



BECOME A DIETICIAN OR NUTRITIONIST?

Taking A-Level (or equivalent) chemistry, biology and maths are essential if you want to study dietetics. Details of current entry requirements for all of the above courses can be found on the UCAS website.

Around the age of 14 you will have to make some important decisions about your future studies. If you like chemistry and are considering taking it further, the best advice is to do as much science as you can.

What do I need to do?

- Find out what science courses are available at your school
- Ask your teachers what the various courses involve
- If you are interested in a career using chemistry, and/or would like to study the subject at a higher level, find out the entry requirements for those higher level courses. You are likely to need good grades with maths also being an important subject. Even if you decide not to continue with science in future, it is still useful for a **wide range of careers**.
- Take the time to consider your options and how they could impact your future
- Speak with real scientists in real time using **I'm a Scientist**.

Where can I get help with my choices?

Your teachers or careers adviser can tell you more about the science or chemistry courses available at your school. If you're interested in **work-based qualifications or an apprenticeship**, the entry requirements vary.

Find out whether there are any special school careers events that will give you information about careers in chemistry.

After-school clubs, local events, online games (**check out the resources on our education website**) are fun ways to explore your interest further.

For information on which subjects you will need for any careers that interest you, see:

- National Careers Service (England)
- Careers Wales
- Skills Development Scotland
- Careers Service Northern Ireland
- Careers Portal – Republic of Ireland



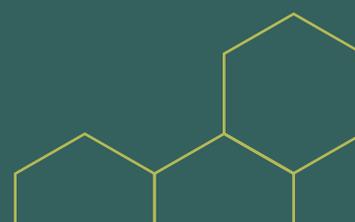
Gyrfa Cymru
Careers Wales

Skills
Development
Scotland

Remember that if you want to continue with chemistry, keep your options open by taking as much science as possible. Take time to consider all your options – they can impact on the choices available to you in the future.

If you have enjoyed studying chemistry at GCSE (or equivalent), there are various ways you can continue with the subject post-16. There are a range of school, college-based and work-based qualifications available at this age so it is important that you take time to think about what would suit you and your plans best. The option you choose might depend on:

- how you prefer to learn
- how you prefer to be assessed
- what your future plans are



SCHOOL-BASED QUALIFICATIONS

ENGLAND, WALES AND NORTHERN IRELAND

- AS chemistry
- A-level chemistry
- International baccalaureate (IB)
- Pre-U chemistry (note last exams for this course will take place in June 2023)
- Applied general courses in applied science, e.g. BTEC and other level 3 diplomas and certificates.
- T levels (England only)

AS and A Levels in England

AS chemistry is a discrete qualification, assessed at the end of the course, which typically lasts one year. The marks don't count towards A-level chemistry. A-level chemistry courses typically last two years and students are also assessed at the end of the course.

In AS and A-level chemistry courses, practical skills are assessed externally by written exams only. For students studying A-level chemistry, there is a practical endorsement component which involves assessing student's competency in performing skills that are not assessable via a written exam. The practical endorsement is assessed internally. There is no practical endorsement in AS Level chemistry.

[Read our list of preferred A-level subject choices for university courses \(England only\)](#)

AS and A-levels in Wales and Northern Ireland

AS and A-level chemistry are slightly different in Wales and Northern Ireland. In both countries, the qualifications consist of AS and A2 units. AS Level is a standalone qualification but also contributes 40% of the marks to the full A-Level qualification. In both Wales and Northern Ireland, students complete a lab-based practical exam and a written paper to assess practical skills.

Applied general courses include level 3 certificates and diplomas, a common example is the BTEC in applied science. These courses are assessed by a combination of written exams, assignments and practical reports. These qualifications are well recognised by UK universities should you want to go onto a degree, or start a higher, technician or degree apprenticeship (or equivalent).

T Levels

These new, two-year courses are equivalent to three A levels and offer a mixture of classroom learning and work. You'll spend 80% of your time in the classroom and 20% on a 45-day placement with an employer to give you the skills and knowledge companies look for.

T levels are ideal if you have finished your GCSEs and want the knowledge and experience to get straight into employment, an apprenticeship or higher education.

There are no national entry requirements for a science T level but check with your school about their requirements. If your school does not offer T levels you can find out which colleges and schools do at www.tlevels.gov.uk/find Enter your postcode and find the colleges and schools who are offering science T level.

[For more information read the Government's student guide: preparing for industry placements and watch their video.](#)

OPTIONS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

CHOOSING YOUR OPTIONS

Want to know how you can continue to study chemistry and be better qualified to enter the workforce? A higher education qualification is a step up from Scottish Highers, A-levels, BTECs or equivalents. They are usually completed at a university or a higher education institution like a college.

A bachelor's degree is the most well-known higher education qualification, but there are also other qualifications available in the form of certificates, diplomas and foundation degrees. These other types of qualifications prepare you well for a technical role in chemical science, as well as potentially being a stepping-stone to a bachelor's degree and beyond.

Whichever route you choose, a higher education qualification is useful for a career in chemistry. You will be more employable and will develop the skills that can make a difference to society's biggest challenges. The downloadable booklets on the right contain more information about how a chemistry qualification can help with your future plans.

It is important that you take time to think about what would suit you and your plans best. The option you choose might depend on:

- how you prefer to learn
- how you prefer to be assessed
- what your future plans are



You may also wish to consider a higher or degree apprenticeship where you will be employed in a real job and which includes formal learning.

Find out more about apprenticeships and the different types available.



YOUR OPTIONS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION QUALIFICATIONS



HIGHER NATIONAL CERTIFICATE (HNC)

An HNC in chemistry will build your understanding of chemical science and develop your lab practice and experience of scientific techniques and equipment. It is a level 4 qualification, or level 7 in the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF).

Length of study:

It takes one year of full-time study to complete, or two years part-time.

Entry requirements:

To apply you will normally need two Scottish Highers, or one A-level, BTEC or equivalent.

What next?

With a level 4 qualification, or SCQF level 7, you can go straight into the workforce or on to further study for an HND or degree. Courses in Scotland are often designed with progression to degree level study in mind. With an HNC in chemistry you can enter applied and technical roles such as chemical technician or junior analyst. These types of roles can be generalised, where you could work across a range of projects or departments, or you could become a specialist in a particular technique, process, or piece of equipment.

FOUNDATION DEGREE (FDSC)

A foundation degree in chemistry is intended to provide a more employment focused qualification. Designed by employers and universities they seek to provide the knowledge and skills that employers look for. It carries the same weight as two-thirds of a bachelor's degree and is equivalent to a Higher National Diploma (HND) or Diploma of Higher Education (see below) at Level 5.

Length of study:

Completing a foundation degree full time will usually take two years, with part-time courses lasting around four years. They are designed to combine practical work-based learning with study. The qualification is often favoured by students who want to work and study at the same time or prefer learning in an applied style. Find out more about how you can earn while you learn.

Entry requirements:

Generally, you will need either A-levels, BTECs, HNC or equivalents but entry levels tend to be lower than for many bachelor's degree courses. Also formal qualifications are not always necessary; commercial or industrial experience may be accepted. You will need to find out from each institution, as they set their own entry criteria - What Uni is a good place to start.

What next?

With a foundation degree you can enter applied and technical roles such as an associate scientist, as well as more specialised roles or go on to complete a full bachelor's honours degree.





HIGHER NATIONAL DIPLOMA (HND)

An HND in chemistry is equivalent to the second year of a bachelor's degree, making it a level 5 qualification, or in Scotland, a level 8. It will develop your skills and knowledge in the main areas of chemistry (organic, inorganic, physical and analytical) in an integrated manner, focusing on its application in industries such as the pharmaceutical, forensic or environmental science sectors.

HNDs are offered mostly by colleges and sometimes by other institutions such as universities or independent training providers. Mainly classroom taught, the assessments tend to be based on projects, presentations and practical tasks rather than traditional exams. You may also be expected to complete work placements or might be working in a relevant job alongside studying for this qualification.

Length of study:

It takes two years of full-time study to complete, or three to four years part-time, and will have a strong vocational element to give you the practical skills for a career in chemistry.

Entry requirements:

Typically a minimum of two Scottish Highers, or one-to-two A-levels, or an HNC, BTEC or equivalent.

What next?

With an HND in chemistry you can enter applied and technical roles such as a QA technologist, an analytical chemist, and more specialist roles such as a clean water scientific officer. Or take a 'top-up' course to extend it into a full bachelor's degree.

BACHELOR'S DEGREE (BSC)

A bachelor's degree (BSc) is the most common undergraduate qualification, with hundreds of chemical science courses available across the UK. It is a level 6 qualification in the UK, and level 9 or 10 in Scotland, depending on whether it is a BSc with Honours. Studying for a BSc at university will give you an in-depth understanding of chemical science.

Length of study:

It usually takes four years of full-time study to complete a degree in Scotland or three to four in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. Many institutions include the option to spend a year in industry or study abroad.

Entry requirements:

Generally based on grades at Scottish Highers, A-levels, BTECs or equivalents.

What next?

Obtaining a bachelor's degree, level 6 qualification or SCQF level 9/10 in Scotland allows you to apply for a broad range of jobs or enrol in postgraduate study. With qualifications at these levels you can enter technical and applied roles as well as more research-focused and other graduate or postgraduate level roles.



INTEGRATED MASTER'S DEGREE (MCHEM)



An integrated Master's degree combines undergraduate and postgraduate study into a single course. These courses are usually prefixed with an 'M', for example MChem. The Integrated Master's degree is normally identical to the equivalent undergraduate course but provides the opportunity to explore a subject in greater detail by offering an additional year of study, enabling you to graduate with a more specialised qualification. It is a level 7 qualification in the UK, or 11 in Scotland.

Length of study:

It typically lasts four to five years – depending on where you study and whether you undertake a sandwich year with a work placement. In Scotland an Integrated Master's Degree is typically five years.

Entry requirements:

Similar to a bachelor's degree (see above) but you will need to complete the full bachelor's degree before continuing your course for an additional year in a related subject.

What next?

Obtaining an integrated master's degree allows you to apply for a broad range of jobs or enrol in postgraduate study. With qualifications at these levels you can enter technical and applied roles as well as more research-focused and other graduate or postgraduate level roles. With a Royal Society of Chemistry accredited MChem Chemistry degree you will have the academic requirements for admission to Associate Membership of the Royal Society of Chemistry (AMRSC) and, after some professional experience, the award of CChem (Chartered Chemist) for graduates with a first or second class honours degree.

Look out for degree programmes that have been accredited by the Royal Society of Chemistry. Accreditation is a sign that the requirements of the chemical sciences profession, employers and students are being met through a course. An accredited degree will also give you automatic entry of the Royal Society of Chemistry at Associate level (AMRSC). Find out more about how to choose a degree.



ADDITIONAL HE QUALIFICATIONS

CERTIFICATE OF HIGHER EDUCATION (CERTHE) AND DIPLOMA OF HIGHER EDUCATION (DIPHE)



These qualifications are usually awarded if you leave a degree before completing your studies. The CertHE is a level 4 qualification or SCQF (Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework) level 7 and is gained if you leave your first year successfully. The DipHE is a level 5 qualification or SQCF level 8 in Scotland and is awarded if you leave after finishing two years successfully. They are available as stand-alone qualifications in a few instances and would be suitable to students who prefer to study a shorter course.

Length of study:

One year for a CertHE or two years for a DipHE of full-time study at a university or other higher education institution.

Entry requirements:

You will need to check with the institution if you are interested in a stand-alone qualification, for example the Open University DipHE in chemistry does not require formal qualifications.

What next?

With a CertHE or a DipHE you can continue on to further study or enter both scientific and non-scientific jobs. The logical, reasoned approach needed for science study is relevant to a wide range of financial, business and public sector employment.



GOING TO UNIVERSITY

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT WHEN CHOOSING A DEGREE

There are a number of things you should consider before making a decision about exactly what and where you want to study. Some of these are listed below. There is no right or wrong answer to these questions – it's just a case of what is best for you.

Once you have a better idea about what you're looking for, there are a number of questions you should ask about your preferred institution and course. These answers will help you make the right decision. A list of these questions can be found on the next page.

Once you've got an idea about what you'd like to do, talk to your parents, teachers and university admission tutors about any questions you have. You should also check out the UCAS or CAO (Republic of Ireland) and individual university websites.

Go to university open days (UK or Republic of Ireland), – these are a great way to get answers to your questions and to find out about the place where you'll be living and studying for the next few years. It's important to make the most of open days so preparation is key.



WHAT IF THINGS DON'T HAPPEN AS EXPECTED?

Sometimes things do not go quite as expected or hoped. For whatever reason, you may not have secured the university place you wanted and are now unsure of what to do. Make sure not to panic as this is not the end of the world.

There are still several choices open to you:

- if you didn't quite get the required grades it's still worth contacting your first choice university as soon as you can, they may still take you onto the course.
- explore clearing with UCAS to find an alternative university or course,
- investigate other options like taking a gap year, studying abroad or an apprenticeship



Whatever you decide make sure to investigate your options fully and consider how they could affect your future. It is important to remember that things are not as bad as they seem and you still have options.

THINGS TO CONSIDER WHEN GOING TO UNIVERSITY

Degree course options	Entry requirements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What qualification do I get? • What skills and qualification do I want or need at the end of my degree? Will this course help reach your goals? • What career options will I have when I've completed my degree? • Should I choose chemistry or another chemical science degree? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the entry requirements for the course? • Am I likely to meet them? • Might a foundation year course be suitable for me if I don't expect to meet the requirements for the course I'd like to do? • Can I switch course mid-degree?
Life at university	Costs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where will I feel most comfortable? (Near home? On a campus? In a city?) • What is the background of other students on the course? • Do I like the location of the university? • What accommodation is available and for how long? • What is the University culture like? • What help is available as a disabled individual? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What expenses will I have? Books, lab coat, safety glasses, other costs? • How much will it cost me in accommodation and tuition fees? • When will I have to pay? • Will I get financial support? Are any bursaries or scholarships available?
Assessment	Practical work in the laboratory
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How and when will I be assessed? • Is there a practical exam? • What happens if I fail an exam? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will I work as an individual, in pairs or as part of a bigger group? • What kind of experiments will I do in the first year? • Will I work at my own pace or to a fixed schedule? • How do the experiments fit into the lecture course?



General teaching arrangement	Entry requirements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the student : lecturer/tutor ratio? • Is the style of teaching different to that in schools and colleges? If so, how? • Will the course take into account my study background and experience? • Can I get help if I find the work difficult? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the chemistry curriculum in the first year? • How many students will there be in a lecture, tutorial etc.? • What will be my total contact time with lecturers/tutors per week? • How much practical work will I do? • What is a typical student week? • What types of modules can I chose from? • Is a work placement or internship offered?
Non-contact time	Do your research
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How many hour's work will I be directed to do each week? • How much other work will I be expected to do? • What are the library and computer facilities like and can I access them remotely? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is my choice relevant or acceptable as training for my future career? • What do students typically do after this degree course? • What percentage of graduates gets a job on leaving university? • Is the course designed to produce researchers industrial chemists or something else?

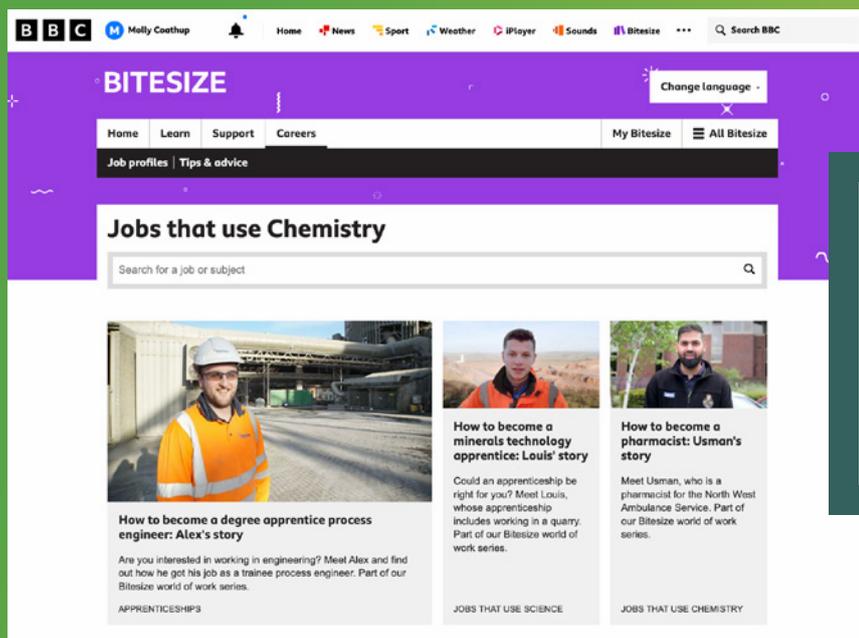


WHY CHEMISTRY?

Chemistry saves lives and makes a difference. It is at the centre of everything we can see, smell, touch and taste. Chemistry can help you understand how the world around you works, how things are made and where you stand on important topics that shape our lives. Chemistry helps solve the world's biggest challenges, saves lives through medicines and solve crimes through forensics. Chemistry helps feed the world and protects and cleans up our environment for future generations. Chemistry teaches you skills such as problem solving and logical thinking that open up lots of career options. Flexible study routes allow students to shape their future.



JOBS THAT USE CHEMISTRY



SCAN ME

USEFUL RESOURCES

- www.rsc.li/future
- www.nationalcareersweek.com
- www.ncw.tv.co.uk
- www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize
- www.nationalcareers.service.gov.uk

National Careers Week

NCW

**National
Careers
Service**

NCWTV

**ROYAL SOCIETY
OF CHEMISTRY**

**BBC
Bitesize**



National Careers Week

NCW



ROYAL SOCIETY
OF **CHEMISTRY**

nationalcareersweek.com

National Careers Week

