



KINGSTON
GRAMMAR SCHOOL

FOUNDED 1561



CHEMISTRY DEPARTMENT

THE CURRICULUM

First and Second Year

First Year students study Chemistry as part of a General Science course (four periods per week), including introductory topics such as chemical change as well as learning basic practical skills.

Second Year students study a course designed to deepen their understanding of chemical ideas and gain experience in a wider range of practical techniques (three periods a fortnight).

GCSE

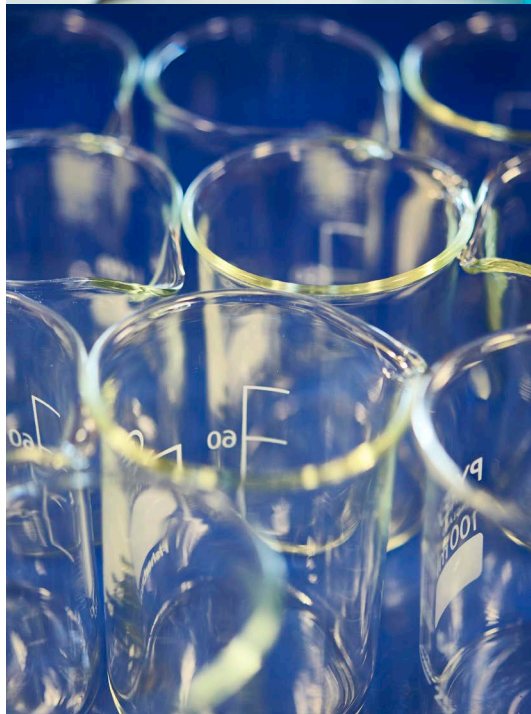
Third, Fourth and Fifth Year

Students in the Third, Fourth and Fifth Years study a curriculum that leads to the academically stretching Edexcel International GCSE qualifications, either in Chemistry or as part of a combined Double Award Science qualification (equivalent to two International GCSEs).

A LEVEL

Lower and Upper Sixth

At A Level we follow the Edexcel specification, which gives students a broad knowledge of advanced chemical topics and covers a wide range of material, whilst also being intellectually rigorous. Practical work is a central component of the course and practical competency is assessed and reported alongside the final grade.





PRACTICAL WORK

Practical work forms an integral part of the study of Chemistry and is incorporated as widely as possible into the curriculum. Students gain experience of a range of analytical and preparative techniques as well as the confidence to manipulate a wide variety of apparatus. Computer-controlled data-logging, including spectroscopic devices, enables students to experience working with modern scientific equipment. Molecular models bring the abstract, microscopic world of the atom into the tangible, macroscopic world of the student.

CO-CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

There are a variety of opportunities available to students to further their knowledge of Chemistry outside their formal lessons. Junior students can attend the Junior Science Club, whilst the Faraday Society (run in conjunction with the Physics Department) is an opportunity for Sixth Form students to get to grips with interesting experiments and more complex theoretical puzzles.

EXTENSION CLASSES

A regular programme of extension classes is offered to Sixth Form students, as well as a dedicated Chemistry for Medics course. Additional tutorial-style classes are organised for students applying to Oxford or Cambridge for courses with significant chemical content.

	2020	2019
GCSE 9 - 7	97%	100%
A Level A* - B	89%	63%

The Chemistry Department at Kingston Grammar School seeks to give every student a thorough grounding in the principles of Chemistry, equipping them with the skills to understand the contributions that chemists make to modern life and enabling them to make informed contributions to discussions on scientific issues.

Lessons aim to impart a sound knowledge of the chemical world whilst encouraging curiosity and the desire to become independent and lifelong learners.

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