AQA
A Level Chemistry and Careers in Chemistry

Find examples of relevant careers for subsections of the curriculum and link through to job profiles for further information. The profiles will give your students real world examples of jobs in the aspects of chemistry they enjoy most. They are written by teachers for teachers.

Simply click on the job title to go to the job profile on A Future in Chemistry.
3.1 Physical chemistry

3.1.1 Atomic structure
  › Executive editor, scientific publishing
  › Radioactive waste consultant
  › Research assistant, healthcare
  › Science career coach and mentor
  › Secondary school science teacher

3.1.2 Amount of substance
  › Analyst – higher apprentice, organic chemistry
  › Analytical chemists, Thames Water
  › Director
  › Medicinal chemist, drug discovery
  › Pollution control officer
  › Process chemist – higher apprentice, pharmaceuticals
  › Professor of environmental chemistry
  › Secondary school science teacher

3.1.3 Bonding
  › Computational toxicologist
  › Nanotoxicologist
  › PhD researcher
  › Postdoctoral research associate
  › Research fellow
  › Research innovations manager
  › Science communicator
  › Secondary school science teacher
  › Senior curator
  › Senior software developer
3.1 Physical chemistry

3.1.4 Energetics
› Chief chemist
› Director
› Process chemist – higher apprentice, pharmaceuticals
› Project leader in enhanced experimentation
› Secondary school science teacher

3.1.5 Kinetics (A Level Only)
› Chief executive officer, ViridiCO2
› Process chemist – higher apprentice, pharmaceuticals
› Secondary school science teacher
› Senior principal scientist

3.1.11 Electrode potentials and electrochemical cells (A Level Only)
› Associate professor and enterprise, partnerships and innovation lead
› Patent attorney
› PhD researcher
› Product and process development manager
› Research fellow, battery recycling
› Scientific Consultant
› Secondary school science teacher
› Solar technology engineer
3.2 Inorganic chemistry

3.2.1 Periodicity
- Executive editor, scientific publishing
- Science career coach and mentor

3.2.2 Group 2, the alkaline earth metals
- Analytical chemists, Thames Water
- Laboratory analyst and higher degree apprentice, water

3.2.4 Properties of Period 3 elements and their oxides (A-level only)
- Secondary school science teacher
- Senior curator

3.2.5 Transition metals (A-level only)
- Bioleaching lab technician
- Chief technology officer
- Development chemist, printing and inks
- Director
- Environmental process specialist
- Museum scientist
- Product and process development manager
- Project manager
- Secondary school science teacher
- Senior curator
3.2 Inorganic chemistry

3.2.6 Reactions of ions in aqueous solution (A-level only)

- Director
- Museum scientist
- Product and process development manager
- Professor of environmental chemistry
- Senior curator

3.3 Organic chemistry

3.3.1 Introduction to organic chemistry

- Associate principal scientist, food
- Associate scientist, pharmaceuticals
- Chief technology officer
- Computational toxicologist
- Development chemist, printing and inks
- Executive editor, scientific publishing
- Forensic toxicologist
- Nanotoxicologist
- Science career coach and mentor
- Secondary school science teacher
- Toxicologist, chemical company

3.3.2 Alkanes

- Project leader in enhanced experimentation

3.3.4 Alkenes

- Analytical technician, plastics
- Marketing development manager
- R&D Chemist
- Research innovations manager
- Secondary school science teacher
- Science career coach and mentor
3.3 Organic chemistry

3.3.5 Alcohols
› Forensic scientist
› Secondary school science teacher

3.3.6 Organic analysis
› Advanced apprentice – forensics
› Analyst – higher apprentice, organic chemistry
› Analytical chemists, Thames Water
› Assistant analyst, drug control centre
› Associate researcher
› Astrochemist
› Atmospheric chemist
› Bioanalytical scientist
› Chief technology officer and co-founder of a robotic chemists' company
› Director of IRC in biomedical materials
› Environmental chemist
› Forensic scientist
› Forensic toxicologist
› Laboratory analyst and higher degree apprentice, water
› Senior science manager
› Museum scientist
› Nanotoxicologist
› Pollution control officer
› Process chemist – higher apprentice, pharmaceuticals
› Professor of environmental chemistry
› Research assistant, healthcare
› Research innovations manager
› Secondary school science teacher
› Senior analytical systems technician
› Senior director of chip research
› Soil scientist
› Sports scientist
› Teaching technical specialist
› University laboratory technician apprentice
3.3 Organic chemistry

3.3.7 Optical isomerism (A level only)
› **Associate principal scientist, food**
› **Medical chemist, drug discovery**
› **Nanotoxicologist**
› **Research innovations manager**
› **Secondary school science teacher**

3.3.8 Aldehydes and ketones (A Level Only)
› **Flavour chemist and innovation director**

3.3.9 Carboxylic acids and derivatives (A Level Only)
› **Flavour chemist and innovation director**

3.3.12 Polymers (A Level Only)
› **Analytical technician, plastics**
› **Associate professor**
› **Associate professor and enterprise, partnerships and innovation lead**
› **Chief technology officer and co-founder of Lixea, a sustainable solutions company**
› **Consumer products technician**
› **Head of research and sustainability**
› **Marketing development manager**
› **Patent attorney**
› **Professor of biorefineries**
› **R&D Chemist**
› **Research innovations manager**
› **Secondary school science teacher**
› **Section leader, wind**
› **Senior research and development scientist**

3.3.13 Amino acids, proteins and DNA (A Level Only)
› **Director of IRC in biomedical materials**
› **Postdoctoral research associate**
› **Secondary school science teacher**
› **Senior director of chip research**
3.3 Organic chemistry
3.3.14 Organic synthesis (A Level Only)
› Analytical technician, plastics
› Associate professor
› Associate researcher
› Chief executive officer, ViridiCO2
› Director of medicinal chemistry
› Household goods scientist
› Medicinal chemist, drug discovery
› Process chemist – higher apprentice, pharmaceuticals
› Research innovations manager
› Secondary school science teacher

3.3.15 Nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy
(A Level Only)
› Forensic toxicologist
› Laboratory analyst and higher degree apprentice, water
› Museum scientist
› Nanotoxicologist
› Scientific associate, NMR spectroscopy
› Secondary school science teacher
› Teaching technical specialist
› University laboratory technician apprentice

3.3.16 Chromatography
› Analyst – higher apprentice, organic chemistry
› Analytical chemist, healthcare
› Associate scientist, pharmaceuticals
› Bioanalytical scientist
› Chief technology officer
› Chief technology officer & co-founder of a robotic chemists’ company
› Forensic toxicologist
› Laboratory analyst and higher degree apprentice, water
› Museum scientist
› Process chemist – higher apprentice, pharmaceuticals
› Professor of environmental chemistry
› Research assistant, healthcare
› Scientific associate, NMR spectroscopy
› Scientist, Incident management & crisis resolution
› Secondary school science teacher
› Senior science manager
› Soil scientist
› Teaching technical specialist
› University laboratory technician apprentice
Unit 8 Practical assessment

8.1 Use of apparatus and techniques

- Secondary school science teacher
- Marine biogeochemist
- Chief technology officer and co-founder of a robotic chemists' company
- Process chemist – higher apprentice, pharmaceuticals
- Research & development team leader
- Senior director of chip research
- Medicinal chemist, drug discovery
- Analyst – higher apprentice, organic chemistry
- Museum scientist
- Section leader, wind
- Marketing development manager
- Research fellow, battery recycling
- Solar technology engineer
- PhD researcher
- Chief technology officer and co-founder of Lixea, a sustainable solutions company
- Professor of environmental chemistry
- Bioleaching lab technician
- Teaching technical specialist
- University laboratory technician apprentice
- R&D Chemist
- Scientific Consultant
- Scientist, Incident Management & Crisis Resolution
- Associate professor
- Qualified Person, pharmaceuticals
- Environmental process specialist
- Pollution control officer
- Soil scientist
- Senior science manager
- School science technician

8.2 Required practical activities

- School science technician