

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.



A Level Chemistry and Careers in Chemistry 1 of 8

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



A Level Chemistry and Careers in Chemistry 2 of 8

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



A Level Chemistry and Careers in Chemistry 3 of 8

3.2 Inorganic chemistry

- 3.2.1 Periodicity
- > Executive editor, scientific publishing
- Science career coach and mentor
- Secondary school science teacher
- 3.2.2 Group2, the alkaline earth metals
 - > Analytical chemists, Thames Water >> Secondary school science teacher
- Laboratory analyst and higher degree apprentice, water
- Senior curator
- 3.2.4 Properties of Period 3 elements and their oxides (Alevel only)
 - > Secondary school science teacher >> Senior curator
- 3.2.5 Transition metals (A-level only)
- › Bioleaching lab technician
- Museum scientist
- Chief technology officer
- > Product and process development manager
- Development chemist, printing and inks
- > Project manager

Director

- Secondary school science teacher
- > Environmental process specialist
- Senior curator



A Level Chemistry and Careers in Chemistry 4 of 8

3.2 Inorganic chemistry

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

> Director

 Professor of environmental chemistry

- Museum scientist
- Product and process development manager
- 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

Nanotoxicologist

Forensic toxicologist

- 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

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A Level Chemistry and Careers in Chemistry 5 of 8

3.3 Organic chemistry

3.3.5 Alcohols

- > Forensic scientist
- Secondary school science teacher
- Senior science manager

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 cofounder of a robotic chemists'
 company
- Director of IRC in biomedical materials
- Environmental chemist
- > Forensic scientist
- Forensic toxicologist
- Laboratory analyst and higher degree apprentice, water

- 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



A Level Chemistry and Careers in Chemistry 6 of 8

3.3 Organic chemistry

- 3.3.7 Optical isomerism (A level only)
- Associate principal scientist, food
- Research innovations manager
- Medicinal chemist, drug discovery
- Secondary school science teacher

- > Nanotoxicologist
- 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
- Patent attorney

Associate professor

- Professor of biorefineries
- Associate professor and enterprise, partnerships and innovation lead
- > R&D Chemist
- Chief technology officer and cofounder of Lixea, a sustainable solutions company
- Research innovations manager
- > Consumer products technician
- Secondary school science teacher
- Head of research and sustainability
- Section leader, wind
- Marketing development manager
- Senior research and development scientist
- 3.3.13 Amino acids, proteins and DNA (A Level Only)
- Director of IRC in biomedical materials
- Secondary school science teacher
- › Postdoctoral research associate
- > Senior director of chip research



A Level Chemistry and Careers in Chemistry 7 of 8

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

> Professor of environmental chemistry

> Research assistant, healthcare

Chief technology officer

> Chief technology officer & co-founder of a robotic chemists' company

> Forensic toxicologist

Laboratory analyst and higher degree apprentice, water

Museum scientist

- 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

Process chemist – higher apprentice, pharmaceuticals



A Level Chemistry and Careers in Chemistry 8 of 8

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

- > 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
- Chief technology officer and co-founder of Lixea, a sustainable solutions company

8.2 Required practical activities

School science technician