OCR A
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.
Module 1 Development of practical skills in chemistry

1.2 Practical skills assessed in the practical endorsement

1.2.1 Practical skills

- Analyst – higher apprentice, organic chemistry
- Associate professor
- Bioreaching lab technician
- Chief technology officer and co-founder of a robotic chemists' company
- Chief technology officer and co-founder of Lixea, a sustainable solutions company
- Environmental process specialist
- Marine biogeochemist
- Marketing development manager
- Medicinal chemist, drug discovery
- Museum scientist
- PhD researcher
- Pollution control officer
- Process chemist – higher apprentice, pharmaceuticals
- Professor of biorefineries
- Professor of environmental chemistry
- Qualified Person, pharmaceuticals
- R&D Chemist
- Research & development team leader
- Research fellow, battery recycling
- Scientific Consultant
- Scientist, Incident Management & Crisis Resolution
- Secondary school science teacher
- Section leader, wind
- Senior director of chip research
- Senior science manager
- Soil scientist
- Solar technology engineer
- Teaching technical specialist
- University laboratory technician apprentice
Module 1 Development of practical skills in chemistry

1.2 Practical skills assessed in the practical endorsement

1.2.2 Use of apparatus and techniques

- Analyst – higher apprentice, organic chemistry
- Associate professor
- Bioleaching lab technician
- Chief technology officer and co-founder of a robotic chemists' company
- Chief technology officer and co-founder of Lixea, a sustainable solutions company
- Environmental process specialist
- Marine biogeochemist
- Marketing development manager
- Medicinal chemist, drug discovery
- Museum scientist
- PhD researcher
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- Process chemist – higher apprentice, pharmaceuticals
- Professor of biorefineries
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- Section leader, wind
- Senior director of chip research
- Senior science manager
- Soil scientist
- Solar technology engineer
- Teaching technical specialist
- University laboratory technician apprentice

Also under 1.2 Practical skills assessed in the practical endorsement, from 2020

- Analytical chemists, Thames Water
- Development chemist, printing and inks
- Laboratory analyst and higher degree apprentice, water
- School science technician
Module 2 – Foundations in chemistry

2.1 Atoms and reactions

2.1.1 Atomic structure and isotopes

› Executive editor, scientific publishing  
› Radioactive waste consultant

2.1.2 Amount of substance

› Analyst – higher apprentice, organic chemistry  
› Director
› Medicinal chemist, drug discovery
› Pollution control officer

› Process chemist – higher apprentice, pharmaceuticals
› Professor of environmental chemistry
› Secondary school science teacher

2.1.5 Redox

› PhD researcher

› Secondary school science teacher

Also under 2.1 Atoms and reactions, from 2020

› Analytical chemists, Thames Water

› Research assistant, healthcare
Module 2 – Foundations in chemistry

2.2 Electrons, bonding and structure

2.2.2 Bonding and structure

› Secondary school science teacher
› Senior curator

Also under 2.2 Electrons, bonding and structure, from 2020

› Analytical technician, plastics
› Computational toxicologist
› Nanotoxicologist
› Postdoctoral research associate

Module 3 Periodic table and energy

3.1 The periodic table

3.1.1 Periodicity

› PhD researcher
› Secondary school science teacher

3.1.4 Qualitative analysis

› Museum scientist
› Scientist, Incident Management & Crisis Resolution

Also under 3.1 The periodic table, from 2020

› Analytical chemists, Thames Water
› Laboratory analyst and higher degree apprentice, water
Module 3 Periodic table and energy

3.2 Physical chemistry

3.2.1 Enthalpy changes

› Director
› Process chemist – higher apprentice, pharmaceuticals
› Secondary school science teacher

3.2.2 Reaction rates

› Chief executive officer, ViridiCO2
› Process chemist – higher apprentice, pharmaceuticals
› Secondary school science teacher
› Senior principal scientist

Also under 3.2 Physical chemistry, from 2020

› Chief chemist
› Project leader in enhanced experimentation
Module 4 – Core organic chemistry

4.1 Basic concepts and hydrocarbons

4.1.3 Alkenes

› Associate professor
› Chief executive officer, ViridiCO2
› Chief technology officer and co-founder of Lixe, a sustainable solutions company
› Head of research and sustainability
› Marketing development manager

Also under 4.1 Basic concepts and hydrocarbons, from 2020

› Analytical technician, plastics
› Associate principal scientist, food
› Associate scientist, pharmaceuticals
› Chief technology officer
› Development chemist, printing and inks
› Professor of biorefineries
› R&D Chemist
› Secondary school science teacher
› Senior science manager
› Nanotoxicologist
› Project leader in enhanced experimentation
› Research innovations manager
› Toxicologist, chemical company
Module 4 – Core organic chemistry

4.2 Alcohols, haloalkanes and analysis

4.2.1 Alcohols

› Secondary school science teacher

› Senior science manager

4.2.3 Organic synthesis

› Chief technology officer and co-founder of a robotic chemists’ company

› Medicinal chemist, drug discovery

› Process chemist – higher apprentice, pharmaceuticals

› Secondary school science teacher

4.2.4 Analytical techniques

›Analyst – higher apprentice, organic chemistry

› Chief technology officer and co-founder of a robotic chemists’ company

› Museum scientist

› Pollution control officer

› Process chemist – higher apprentice, pharmaceuticals

› Professor of environmental chemistry

› Secondary school science teacher

› Senior director of chip research

› Soil scientist

› Teaching technical specialist

› University laboratory technician apprentice

Also under 4.2 Alcohols, haloalkanes and analysis, from 2020

› Advanced apprentice – forensics

› Analytical technician, plastics

› Assistant analyst, drug control centre

› Associate researcher

› Astrochemist

› Atmospheric chemist

› Bioanalytical scientist

› Director of IRC in biomedical materials

› Environmental chemist

› Forensic scientist

› Household goods scientist

› Lab analyst and higher degree apprentice, water

› Nanotoxicologist

› Research assistant, healthcare

› Research innovations manager

› Scientific associate, NMR spectroscopy

› Senior analytical systems technician

› Sports scientist
Module 5 – Physical chemistry and transition elements

5.1 Rates equilibria and pH
5.1.1. How fast?
› Chief executive officer, ViridiCO2
› Secondary school science teacher

Also under 5.1 Rates equilibria and pH, from 2020
› Analytical chemist, healthcare
› Development chemist, printing and inks

5.2 Energy
5.2.2 Enthalpy and entropy
› Director

5.2.3 Redox and electrode potentials
› Associate professor and enterprise, partnerships and innovation lead
› PhD researcher
› Research fellow, battery recycling

Also under 5.2 Energy, from 2020
› Chief chemist
Module 5 – Physical chemistry and transition elements

5.3 Transition elements

5.3.1 Transition elements

› Bioleaching lab technician
› Chief technology officer
› Director
› Environmental process specialist
› Museum scientist
› Product and process development manager
› Project manager
› Secondary school science teacher

5.3.2 Qualitative analysis

› Museum scientist
› Professor of environmental chemistry
› Secondary school science teacher
Module 6 – Organic chemistry and analysis

6.1 Aromatic compounds, carbonyls and acids
- Analytical technician, plastics
- Associate principal scientist, food
- Flavour chemist and innovation director
- Nanotoxicologist

6.2 Nitrogen compounds, polymers and synthesis
6.2.2 Amino acids, amides and chirality
- Medicinal chemist, drug discovery

6.2.3 Polyesters and polyamides
- Associate professor
- Associate professor and enterprise, partnerships and innovation lead
- Chief technology officer and co-founder of Lixea, a sustainable solutions company
- Marketing development manager
- Professor of biorefineries
- R&D Chemist
- Secondary school science teacher
- Section leader, wind
- Senior research and development scientist

6.2.5 Organic synthesis
- Chief executive officer, ViridiCO2
- Medicinal chemist, drug discovery
- Process chemist – higher apprentice, pharmaceuticals
- Secondary school science teacher

Also under 6.2 Nitrogen compounds, polymers and synthesis, from 2020
- Analytical technician, plastics
- Associate principal scientist, food
- Associate researcher
- Consumer products technician
- Household goods scientist
- Nanotoxicologist
- Patent attorney
- Postdoctoral research associate
- Research innovations manager
Module 6 – Organic chemistry and analysis

6.3 Analysis

6.3.1 Chromatography and qualitative analysis

- Analyst – higher apprentice, organic chemistry
- Chief technology officer and co-founder of a robotic chemists’ company
- Museum scientist
- Professor of environmental chemistry
- Scientist, Incident Management & Crisis Resolution
- Secondary school science teacher
- Senior science manager
- Soil scientist
- Teaching technical specialist
- University laboratory technician apprentice

6.3.2 Spectroscopy

- Analyst – higher apprentice, organic chemistry
- Chief technology officer and co-founder of a robotic chemists’ company
- Professor of environmental chemistry
- Qualified Person, pharmaceuticals
- Secondary school science teacher
- Soil scientist
- Teaching technical specialist

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Module 6 – Organic chemistry and analysis

Also under 6.3 Analysis, from 2020

- Advanced apprentice – forensics
- Analytical chemist, healthcare
- Analytical chemists, Thames Water
- Assistant analyst, drug control centre
- Associate principal scientist, food
- Associate researcher
- Associate scientist, pharmaceuticals
- Astrochemist
- Atmospheric chemist
- Bioanalytical scientist
- Chief technology officer
- Development chemist, printing and inks
- Director of IRC in biomedical materials
- Environmental chemist
- Forensic scientist
- Forensic toxicologist
- Laboratory analyst and higher degree apprentice, water
- Nanotoxicologist
- Research assistant, healthcare
- Research innovations manager
- Scientific associate, NMR spectroscopy
- Senior analytical systems technician
- Sports scientist