



Independent Learning in A Level Chemistry



After each lesson, in addition to completing any set work, a pro-active, independent learner would...

- Ensure that notes are completed and filed suitably in a folder.
- Read the relevant textbook chapter and annotate lesson notes with additional, relevant content.
- Make a list of things not fully understood to discuss with a peer or a teacher *before* the next lesson AND carry out the discussion (or pose the question on *SLACK*).
- Try to summarise the content of the lesson in note or diagrammatic format to diagnose lack of understanding.
- Try to commit factual information to memory immediately, rather than leaving it until revision.
- Match the content of the specification against lesson notes/content to ensure that all points are covered.
- Maintain a list of learning points from reviewed/marked work and regularly review this list.
- Seek out additional sources of questions on areas of weakness or where mistakes were made in classwork, homework or a test. For important pieces of work, diagnose mistakes as active mistakes, slip-ups and blackouts.
- Read the textbook chapter on the next topic before the next lesson.

3

2

1

Effort grade

Resources to help you study

Most key resources, such as the specification for your course, data sheet, past papers, etc. can be found in Handouts\Science\A Level Chemistry. Some additional resources to help you are as follows:

Resource	Description
www.chemguide.co.uk	The best resource for chemical explanations other than your textbook.
SLACK Chemistry group	Use for discussion with peers or ask teachers a question. drkershaw-chemistry.slack.com ; channel: #year12chemistry2017
<i>Chemical Ideas</i> textbook and answers	<i>Chemical Ideas</i> was the old textbook for your course. There are lots of spare copies you can borrow in B3.01. Find answers to the questions in Handouts.
Facer Edexcel textbooks and answers	You can find a copy of these textbooks in B3.01. The answers, in Handouts, are brilliant, since they contain a commentary from a chief examiner.
Curriculum 2000 specimen questions	Find these in Handouts. Questions written at an A Level standard for all exam boards. Look at the topic list PDF to help your find topics.
Chemsheets	Find these in Handouts. Good summary sheets on all the major chemical ideas with summary questions and answers.

Stretch yourself

Borrow a copy of *Chemistry World* from B3.01 and read about current developments in chemistry to put your learning in context, or if you really want a challenge, come to weekly Chemistry Olympiad training sessions.