

Year 9 Chemistry – Programme of study

The topics we shall cover this year will be as follows:

9/0 How Science Works

- Designing an investigation – independent, dependent and control variables
- Making measurements
 - accuracy and precision
 - continuous, discrete, categorical and ordered variables
- Presenting data – tables and graphs
- Using data to draw conclusions - reliability

9/1 States of matter

- Solids, liquids and gases
 - Definitions and descriptions in terms of particles
 - Energy changes on change of state and temperature/time graphs
- Evidence for particles – diffusion and dilution experiments

9/2 Materials

- Elements, compounds and mixtures
 - Definitions and descriptions in terms of particles
- Separation of mixtures
 - Dissolving, filtration, evaporation, crystallisation
 - Distillation
 - Fractional distillation
 - Separating funnel
 - Chromatography
- Industrial methods of separation
 - Fractional distillation of crude oil, chromatography

9/3 Aqueous chemistry

- The water cycle
- Tests for water
 - Anhydrous copper(II) sulphate, cobalt(II) chloride
 - Melting and boiling points of pure water
- Solubility
 - Definitions of solvent, solute, solution, saturated, crystallisation
 - Solubility curves (for solid and gaseous solutes)
 - Temperature dependence of solubility
- Hard and soft water
 - Causes of hardness
 - Temporary and permanent hardness
 - Experiment to determine degree of hardness
 - Methods of removing hardness
 - Benefits and drawbacks of hard (and soft) water
- 'Dissolving' investigation

9/4 Atomic structure

- History of the discovery of atomic structure
- Protons, neutrons, the nucleus, electrons
 - relative size, mass, charge
- Atomic number (Z), mass number (A), isotopes
- Electron shells (energy levels) – maximum number in each shell
- Electronic structure (configuration) of elements up to Z=20 (i.e. Ca)

9/5 The periodic table

- History of the development of ideas relating to patterns in properties
- Relationship of the structure of the periodic table to electronic structure
- Patterns seen in periods (horizontal) and groups (vertical)
- Trends in reactivity of metals and non-metals
- Reactions of group 1 and group 7 elements

9/6 Representing reactions – formulae and equations

- Formulae of ionic compounds (given charges on anion and cation)
- Formulae of covalent molecules (e.g. H₂, O₂, N₂, CO₂, NH₃, CH₄)
- Interpret formulae as atom ratios
- Word equations and balanced symbol equations with state symbols

9/7 Acids, bases and salts

- Definitions of: acid, alkali, base
- Tests for acids and alkalis – the pH scale
- Neutralisation
- Preparation of salts

9/8 Bonding, structure and related properties

- Ionic, covalent and metallic bonding + intermolecular forces
 - Dot and cross diagrams for ionic and covalent compounds
- Giant and molecular structures
- Dependence of properties on bonding and structure
 - Melting and boiling points
 - Hardness and brittleness, malleability and ductility
 - Electrical and thermal conductivity
 - Solubility in polar and non-polar solvents