

# New A Level Chemistry A

## H034 and H434 replacing 3882 and 7882

Information for OCR centres transferring to **new specifications for first teaching in September 2008**

This document maps the current A Level Chemistry specification to the new specification for first teaching in September 2008. It includes information on the changes, support available and an outline of the new specification. It is intended to help ease the transition for Heads of Department and Teachers involved in the teaching of Chemistry.

The full specification is available online along with a short questionnaire enabling you to share your comments on the specification and help shape the materials developed to support it. For more information including answers to frequently asked questions visit [www.ocr.org.uk/14-19alevels](http://www.ocr.org.uk/14-19alevels)

**Current specification – mapping the changes**

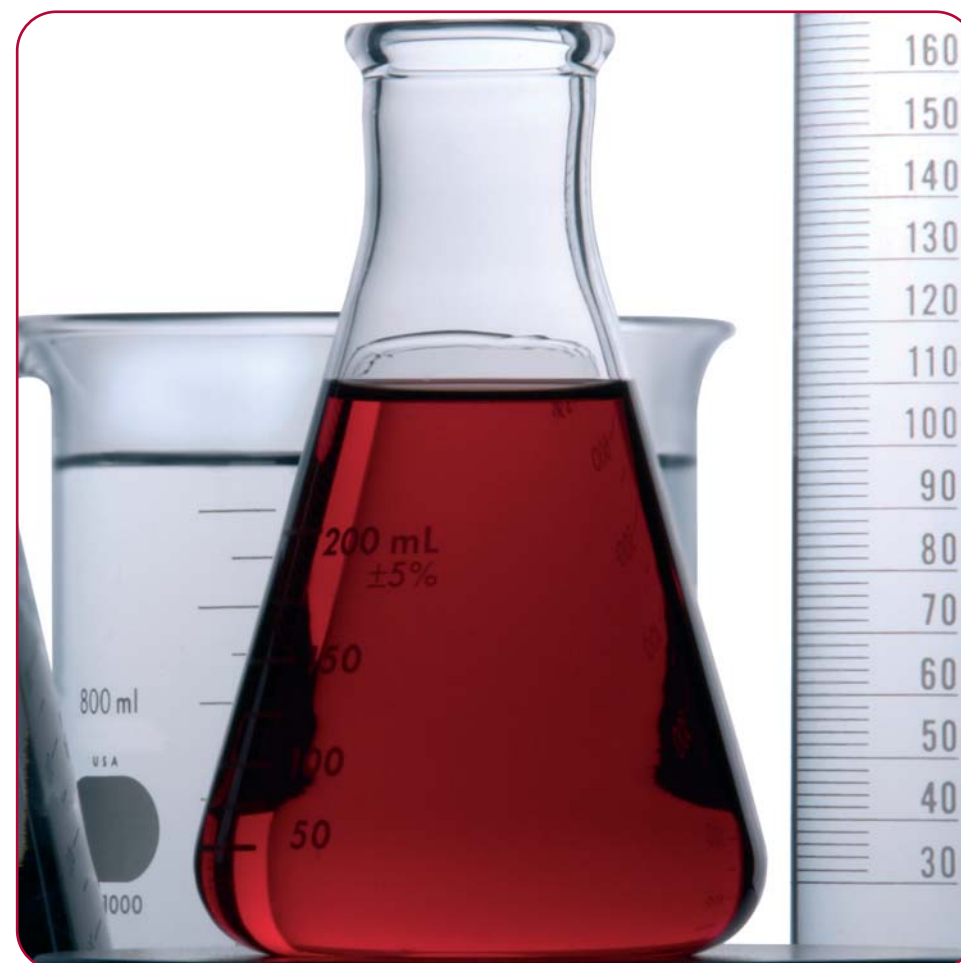
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**Outline specification for first teaching September 2008**

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**QCA have stipulated that:**

- Number of units required to achieve GCE in Chemistry remains at six
- Coursework is retained as controlled assessment
- Stretch and Challenge style questions to be introduced into A2 assessment.



# Mapping the changes to the A Level Chemistry specification for first teaching September 2008

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Existing specification						
	Current unit title	Unit code	What remains the same?	What is changing?	Why is it changing?	Guidance
AS	Foundation Chemistry	<b>2811</b> Mandatory 30% (AS) 15% (A Level) 1hr written exam		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduction in size of content.</li> <li>Updated content.</li> <li>New unit code F321.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Allows centres maximum opportunity to enter candidates in January.</li> </ul>	
AS	Chains and Rings	<b>2812</b> Mandatory 30% (AS) 15% (A Level) 1hr written exam		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New unit code F322.</li> <li>Greater emphasis on environmental issues and 'green' chemistry.</li> </ul>		
	How Far, How fast?/Experimental Skills 1	<b>2813</b> Candidates take either components 2813/01 and 2813/02 or 2813/01 and 2813/03		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New unit code F322.</li> <li>Greater emphasis on environmental issues and 'green' chemistry.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updating and consolidating to meet QCA requirements.</li> </ul>	
AS	How Far, How Fast	<b>2813/01</b> Mandatory 20% (AS) 10% (A Level) 45 min written exam		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some content moving to Unit 2 (F322).</li> </ul>		
	Coursework 1	<b>2813/02</b> Optional 20% (AS) 10% (A Level) Coursework		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New unit code F323.</li> <li>New schemes for practical skills assessment.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To reduce the assessment burden for teachers and candidates.</li> <li>To provide choice.</li> </ul>	
	Practical Examination 1	<b>2813/03</b> Optional 20% (AS) 10% (A Level) 1hr 30min practical exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No longer offered.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No practical exam.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>QCA rules require Practical Skills to be internally assessed.</li> </ul>	

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Existing specification					
Current unit title	Unit code	What remains the same?	What is changing?	Why is it changing?	Guidance
<b>A2</b> Chains, Rings and Spectroscopy	<b>2814</b> Mandatory 15% (A Level) 1hr 30mins written exam		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New unit code F324.</li> </ul>		
Trends and patterns/Options in Chemistry	<b>2815</b> Candidates take components 2815/01 and one of components 2815/02 to 2815/06				
Trends and patterns	<b>2815/01</b> Mandatory 7.5% (A Level) 1hr written exam		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Best features moved to unit F325.</li> </ul>		
Biochemistry	<b>2815/02</b> Optional 7.5% (A Level) 50min written exam		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Little of this unit is retained as much is already covered in GCE Biology.</li> <li>Options are being withdrawn.</li> </ul>		
Environmental Chemistry	<b>2815/03</b> Optional 7.5% (A Level) 50min written exam		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some of the content moves into Unit 2 (F322).</li> <li>Options are being withdrawn.</li> </ul>		
<b>A2</b> Methods and Analysis Detection	<b>2815/04</b> Optional 7.5% (A Level) 50min written exam		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Most of the content moves into Unit 4 (F324).</li> <li>Options are being withdrawn.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In line with customers' feedback.</li> </ul>	
Gases, Liquids and Solids	<b>2815/05</b> Optional 7.5% (A Level) 50min written exam		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Options are being withdrawn.</li> </ul>		
Transition Elements	<b>2815/06</b> Optional 7.5% (A Level) 50min written exam		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Most of this popular unit moves into Unit 5 (F325).</li> <li>Options are being withdrawn.</li> </ul>		

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Existing specification					
Current unit title	Unit code	What remains the same?	What is changing?	Why is it changing?	Guidance
Unifying Concepts in Chemistry/ Experimental Skills 2	<b>2816</b> Candidates take either components 2816/01 and 2816/02 or 2816/01 and 2816/03				
Unifying Concepts in Chemistry	<b>2816/01</b> Mandatory 10% (A Level) 1hr 15min written exam		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Most of the content moves to Unit 5 (F325).</li> </ul>		
Coursework 2	<b>2816/02</b> Optional 10% (A Level) Coursework		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New unit code F326.</li> <li>New schemes for practical skills assessment.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To reduce the assessment burden for teachers and candidates.</li> <li>To provide choices.</li> </ul>	
Practical Examination 2	<b>2816/03</b> Optional 10% (A Level) 1hr 30min practical exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No longer offered.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No practical exam.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>QCA rules require practical skills to be internally assessed.</li> </ul>	

A2

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For AS GCE all three units are mandatory. For Advanced GCE all six units are mandatory.



	New unit title	New unit code	Benefits to me and my learners	Support
AS	Atoms, Bonds and Groups	<b>F321</b> Mandatory 30% (AS) 15% (A Level) 1hr written exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides continuity for current users.</li> <li>Three modules for easier lesson planning.</li> <li>Unit is shorter to allow centres maximum opportunity to enter candidates in January.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comprehensive resources from Heinemann.</li> <li>INSET programme.</li> <li>Schemes of Work for guidance.</li> <li>Sample Assessment Materials.</li> </ul>
AS	Chains, Energy and Resources	<b>F322</b> Mandatory 50% (AS) 25% (A Level) 1hr 45min written exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides continuity for current users.</li> <li>Four modules for easier lesson planning.</li> </ul>	
AS	Practical Skills in Chemistry 1	<b>F323</b> Mandatory 20% (AS) 10% (A Level) Internal assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Candidates choose one from three, OCR set, practical based tasks from each of three task types: Qualitative, Quantitative and Evaluative.</li> <li>Centres access tasks and mark schemes from OCR secure website.</li> <li>Carried out at a time convenient to the centre, under controlled conditions.</li> <li>Hierarchical assessment no longer required.</li> </ul>	
A2	Rings, Polymers and Analysis	<b>F324</b> Mandatory 15% (A Level) 1hr written exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides continuity for current users.</li> <li>Three modules for easier lesson planning.</li> <li>Unit is shorter to allow centres maximum opportunity to enter candidates in January.</li> <li>Stretch and Challenge question types included.</li> </ul>	
A2	Equilibria, Energetics and Elements	<b>F325</b> Mandatory 25% (A Level) 1hr 45min written exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides continuity for current users.</li> <li>Three modules for easier lesson planning.</li> <li>Stretch and Challenge question types included.</li> </ul>	
A2	Practical Skills in Chemistry 2	<b>F326</b> Mandatory 10% (A Level) Internal assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Candidates choose one from three, OCR set, practical based tasks from each of three task types: Qualitative, Quantitative and Evaluative.</li> <li>Centres access tasks and mark schemes from OCR secure website.</li> <li>Carried out at a time convenient to the centre, under controlled conditions.</li> <li>Hierarchical assessment no longer required.</li> </ul>	

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**www.ocr.org.uk**  
OCR customer contact centre

**Vocational qualifications**

Telephone 024 76 851509

Facsimile 024 76 421944

Email [vocational.qualifications@ocr.org.uk](mailto:vocational.qualifications@ocr.org.uk)

**General qualifications**

Telephone 01223 553998

Facsimile 01223 552627

Email [general.qualifications@ocr.org.uk](mailto:general.qualifications@ocr.org.uk)

**OCR**

1 Hills Road, Cambridge CB1 2EU

Telephone 01223 552552

Facsimile 01223 553377

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