

## Why Study Chemistry?

From the moment you are born and throughout your life, you are surrounded by chemistry – the air you breathe, the food you eat and the clothes you wear – all chemistry. Chemistry is the study of substances; what they are made of, how they interact with each other and the role they play in living things. Whether you want to study penguin colonies in Antarctica or want to work in a dynamic business environment, chemistry can help you achieve your goals.

From research in beyond our atmosphere, to the harsh environment in the depths of the ocean, chemistry helps you to understand the world around you and potentially opens up career opportunities. A chemistry qualification can take you almost anywhere.

## As a chemist you could....

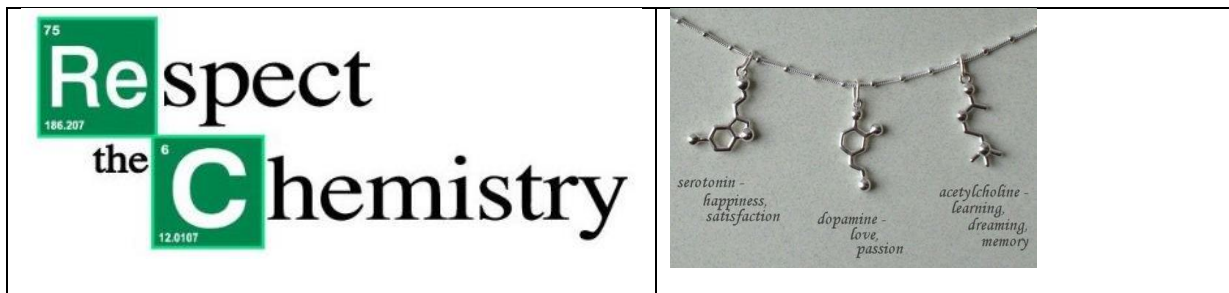
There are many career paths that require chemistry as an essential option, for example any career that is medicine based will have a requirement for high grade in A'level Chemistry.

- ◇ Medicine
- ◇ Veterinary Science

Some careers/professions that A'level Chemistry leads to include:

- ◇ Biochemistry
- ◇ Oceanography
- ◇ Petroleum and Natural Gas Industry
- ◇ Science Writer
- ◇ Software Design
- ◇ Pharmaceuticals





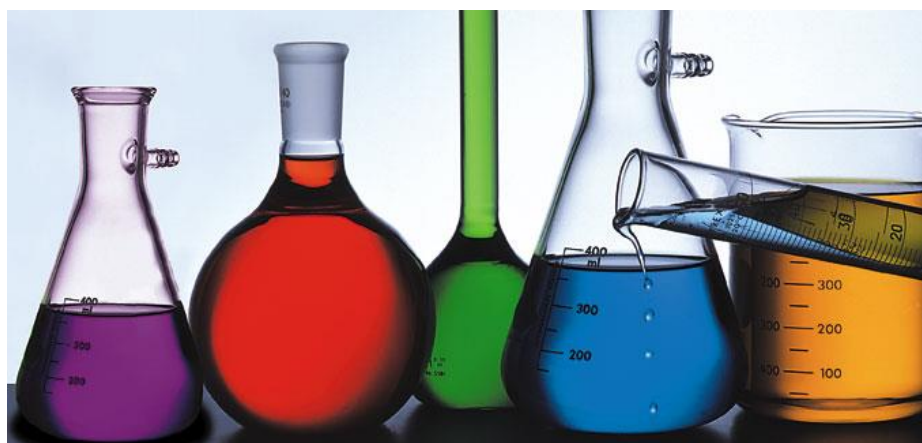
# Become a better chemist..

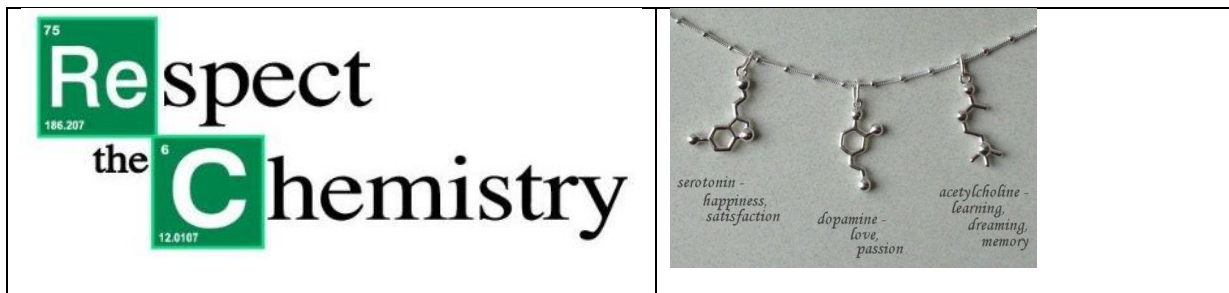
## 1 READ SOME BOOKS

1. ***Why Chemical Reactions Happen.*** Keeler and Wothers
2. ***The chemistry of explosives.*** Akhavan, Jacqueline
3. ***The periodic kingdom – a journey into the land of the chemical elements.*** Atkins, Peter
4. ***Chemistry in the market place.*** Selinger, Ben
5. ***Bad science.*** Goldacre, Ben
6. ***Bad Pharma.*** Goldacre, Ben
7. ***The chemistry of fragrances.*** Pybus, David & Sell, Charles
8. ***Prometheans in the lab – chemistry and the making of the modern world.*** McGrayne, Sharon Bertsch

## 2 VISIT SOME WEBSITES

- **Catalyst** (<http://www.catalyststudent.org.uk/>), a science magazine for students aged 14-19
- Resources for students collated by **Royal Society of Chemistry** (<http://www.rsc.org/Education/SchoolStudents/index.asp>)
- **Chemistry World** magazine (<http://www.rsc.org/chemistryworld/index.asp>)
- **ChemNet** society (<http://www.rsc.org/Membership/Networking/ChemNet/index.asp>)
- **New Scientist** (<http://www.newscientist.com>)





- The Periodic Table [videos](http://periodicvideos.com) from the University of Nottingham (<http://periodicvideos.com>)
- AS/A level resources from the [University of Liverpool](http://www.liv.ac.uk/chemistry/Undergrad/ALevel.html) (<http://www.liv.ac.uk/chemistry/Undergrad/ALevel.html>)
- [Animations](http://www.chemtube3d.com/ALevel.html) of organic reactions mechanisms (<http://www.chemtube3d.com/ALevel.html>)
- A level chemistry [notes](http://www.chemguide.co.uk) (<http://www.chemguide.co.uk>)

As well as these excellent websites you will become a member of the BestChoice VLE (Virtual Learning Environment) for AS and A2 Chemists. Some of you may have used this for GCSE.

### 3 Watch some TV

There are always loads and loads of Science (and more importantly Chemistry) documentaries on TV

Look out for:

1. Anything involving Jim Al-Kalili
2. Royal Institution Christmas Lectures (<http://www.rigb.org/christmas-lectures>)
3. Professor Brian Cox is always worth a look

### 4 Use Twitter

Follow your favourite chemist or scientist on Twitter...

- Ben Goldacre (media bashing science educator)@bengoldacre
- Jim Al-Kalili (science educator and communicator) @jimalkalili
- Royal Society of Chemistry @RSC\_Science

Not to get technical...but according to chemistry, alcohol is a solution.

