Curricular Area: Science **Course Title:** Chemistry National 4

Course Description

This course is intended for students who have not studied Chemistry before. The course develops an understanding of the importance of Chemistry related issues facing the individual and society.

There are 3 units of study:

- Chemical Changes and Structure
- Nature's Chemistry
- Chemistry in Society

The course is designed to allow students to investigate chemical reactions and their impact on the environment. The use of fossil fuels and cleaner energy sources are investigated to discover the impact on the environment. The use of fertilisers and plastics are two further areas of study.

Entry requirements

There is no formal entry requirement.

Assessment

At National 4 level students are assessed on their ability to make accurate statements, related to key areas of content and successfully perform solving problem skills (in Key Area assessments), as well as their ability to plan, carry out and write up a practical investigation. Students will be applying skills of scientific enquiry throughout the course. During the Added Value Unit students will carry out an in-depth investigation or piece of research into an unfamiliar area of Chemistry and then present their findings.

Home Study Expectations

Students are issued with home study either weekly or fortnightly depending on the demands of the part of the course being studied. Home Study tasks will vary and could include research, consolidation of learning and writing up experiments. Students will be also be expected to spend 20 minutes each week reading over their notes.

Possible next level of study

National 4
Chemistry

National 4
Biology or Physics

National 5 Chemist

National 5 Chemistry or SCQF Level 5 Skills for Work: Laboratory Science

Wider Achievement Opportunities

Students have many opportunities to explore and develop their investigative and practical skills in Chemistry. There are also opportunities to be involved in debates about contemporary controversial issues related to the impact of Chemistry.

Possible career paths

The study of Chemistry at this level is a good stepping stone to other science courses at school or college.

For more information see http://www.rsc.org/learn-chemistry/collections/faces-of-chemistry/careers-with-chemistry