

Programme Specification: Post Graduate Taught For Academic Year 2026/27

1. Course Summary

Names of programme and award title(s)	MSc Analytical Sciences
Award type	Taught Masters
Mode of study	Full-time Part-time
Framework of Higher Education Qualification (FHEQ) level of final award	Level 7
Normal length of the programme	1 year full-time or 2 years part-time
Maximum period of registration	The normal length as specified above plus 3 years
Location of study	Keele Campus
Accreditation (if applicable)	Accreditation will be sought from the Royal Society of Chemistry upon completion of a full teaching cycle (see Section 10 for further details)
Regulator	Office for Students (OfS)
Tuition Fees	<p>UK students:</p> <p>Full-time fee for 2026/27 is £11,700</p> <p>Part-time fee for 2026/27 is £6,400 per year*</p> <p>International students:</p> <p>Full-time fee for 2026/27 is £18,200</p>

How this information might change: Please read the important information at <http://www.keele.ac.uk/student-agreement/>. This explains how and why we may need to make changes to the information provided in this document and to help you understand how we will communicate with you if this happens.

* We reserve the right to increase fees in subsequent years of study by an inflationary amount. Please refer to the accompanying Student Terms & Conditions for full details. Further information on fees can be found at <http://www.keele.ac.uk/studentfunding/tuitionfees/>

2. Overview of the Programme

At the heart of this programme is the desire to prepare you for employment in the analytical sector. This will be achieved through traditional approaches of developing academic skills and knowledge, but also imbedding the context of the workplace, and the issues faced within such an environment, within all the teaching.

The key aim of this programme is to develop your professional behaviours and understanding alongside the acquisition of an in-depth understanding of analytical science. Lectures will cover a range of topics from analytical science to how a business operates and on to the regulatory aspects that is central to a commercial analytical laboratory. You will develop the research skills to tackle new problems, alongside learning professional and leadership skills. This holistic approach prepares you to take an idea from concept to a finished product, applying rigorous scientific thinking whilst operating effectively in the realities of the workplace.

To achieve this, the content will be delivered by academics and colleagues from industry, this will provide a good mix of theory and practice. Industry colleagues will provide expertise from the forefront of their respective fields and provide you with industry role models to kickstart your professional network.

Graduates of this programme will have an advanced technical understanding of a range of analytical techniques but also a significant understanding of the context in which they will be used. This will range from an understanding of the business environment to the impact of regulatory bodies on the work carried out within these organisations. The result of this that you will be ready for the workforce with a holistic appreciation of both technical and professional aspects of the organisation.

3. Aims of the programme

The broad aims of the programme are to enable you to:

- acquire postgraduate-level generic and subject-specific knowledge and research skills across a broad range of areas within analytical science.
- develop a strong educational background for a career in the analytical sciences sector
- develop the professional and personal skills that you will need to become a successful professional scientist

4. What you will learn

The intended learning outcomes of the programme (what students should know, understand and be able to do at the end of the programme), can be described under the following headings:

- Subject knowledge and understanding
- Subject specific skills
- Key or transferable skills (including employability skills)

Subject knowledge and understanding

Successful students will be able to:

- The theoretical basis for a range of different analytical techniques and their practical application in real-world settings.
- Experimental design to solve a range of real-world problems, including the selection of appropriate data analysis techniques.
- Statistical approaches used for treatment of data obtained from experimentation, including univariate and multivariate analysis.
- A range of analytical techniques and their practical application to a range of different sample matrices, including the preparation steps required to prepare these samples for analysis.
- The wider business context of the commercial scientific environment, including the strategic, operational, and regulatory factors that influence how science is applied in industry.
- The additional regulatory requirements needed when conducting scientific research in a commercial laboratory such as method validation and quality assurance.

Subject specific skills

Successful students will be able to:

- Apply a wide range of instrumental and other analytical techniques competently to examine relevant materials, considering quality assurance requirements and the inherent limitations of each method.
- Use the research literature in analytical science, including regulations and method validation, to advance understanding and inform practice.
- Show originality in their ability to design a research question and a programme of work to answer this.
- Execute practical work and critically analyse the resulting experimental data to draw valid conclusions, through setting-up examples of standard analytical instrumentation (including calibration).
- Describe and explain appropriate methods for data analysis and interpretation and apply these to experimental datasets of varying complexity, using a selection of appropriate software, databases and other digital resources.
- Work safely and effectively in the laboratory, managing risk assessments and laboratory practices competently whilst maintaining accurate and relevant records.
- Appreciate the importance of data integrity and quality assurance.
- Carry out routine commercial tasks such as market research, competitor analysis, project planning and budgeting

Key or transferable skills (including employability skills)

Successful students will be able to:

- Evaluate their personal research and professional skills and act upon the outcomes to enhance these skills and subsequently tackle and solve problems with confidence and independence, and act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level.
- Communicate scientific information effectively using multiple formats, adapting their approach to inform and engage both specialist and lay audiences, through activities such as presenting at conferences, academic writing, and outreach.
- Interpret scientific literature relevant to their chosen research area to inform research and practice.
- Demonstrate key leadership and management skills such as how to manage a team and plan a project.
- Appreciate the 'commercial' considerations that need to part of any research carried out in industry, such as intellectual property rights.
- Understand the ethical implications of their research.
- 'Sell' themselves to potential employers in both written and oral forms.
- Competently plan, organise and manage a programme of independent experimental work, and to demonstrate self-direction, dedication and originality to independent learning.
- Understand the need to comply with local health and safety rules, and the necessity for risk assessment and the health and safety issues relevant to the laboratory research work.
- Promote an integrated approach to theoretical knowledge, understanding and practical implications of the analytical work alongside personal thoughts and experiences, and show originality in the application of new knowledge.

Keele Graduate Attributes

The Keele Graduate Attributes are the qualities (skills, values and mindsets) which you will have the opportunity to develop during your time at Keele through both the formal curriculum and also through co- and extra-curricular activities (e.g., work experience, and engagement with the wider University community such as acting as ambassadors, volunteering, peer mentoring, student representation, membership and leadership of clubs and societies). Our Graduate Attributes consist of four themes: **academic expertise, professional skills, personal effectiveness, and social, environmental and ethical responsibility**. You will have opportunities to engage actively with the range of attributes throughout your time at Keele: through your academic studies, through self-assessing your own strengths, weaknesses, and development needs, and by setting personal development goals. You will have opportunities to discuss your progress in developing graduate attributes with, for example, Academic Mentors, to prepare for your future career and lives beyond Keele.

5. How is the programme taught?

Learning and teaching methods used on the programme vary according to the subject matter and level of the module. They include the following:

- Lectures, including those from guest speakers from the profession
- Digital material, including short videos and recorded lectures
- Tutorials
- Practical laboratory classes
- Problem-based learning (PBL) classes
- Oral presentations
- Poster presentations
- Group/ teamwork
- Independent project work
- Literature research tasks
- Case studies
- Reflective portfolios
- Workshops
- Directed reading
- Independent study
- Use of e-learning/the Keele Learning Environment (KLE) (Blackboard) and MS Teams

The lectures (in-person and digital asynchronous) describe, explain and map out the academic content of modules as well as engendering and developing an enthusiasm for analytical sciences. Through examples and case studies discussed in the lectures, students develop critical skills in reviewing ideas, principles and applications. Informal tutorials provide occasional small group support to material discussed in lectures and problem classes have a dual role, firstly in enabling students to apply theoretical ideas to new problems and secondly, to allow the tutor to provide formative feedback on the students' learning during these activities.

Analytical Science is a laboratory-based discipline and practical work is closely tied to the lectures, thus enabling students to gain competence and confidence in using laboratory instrumentation as well as developing a critical awareness of the range of techniques available, their capabilities and limitations. Students working in the laboratory quickly gain an understanding of health and safety issues, manage risk assessments, maintaining

accurate and informative laboratory notes and working with others in a safe and productive fashion.

In working with laboratory data, students develop skills and confidence in data analysis, the use of software tools and databases and in communicating the outcomes of such work in the form of reports, oral presentations and as conference posters. They will also develop skills in working independently as well as part of a small team.

Through project work, students will research, devise, plan, execute and report on an original investigation within the discipline either as an individual or as part of a team. They will work safely in the laboratory and engage in ethical, honest and acceptable practices throughout.

Throughout the programme students will undertake independent study that will require them to develop an adaptable and flexible approach to study, work and work-life balance. They will need to work towards identified targets for their own academic development, take responsibility for their own learning and thereby develop confidence in their own understanding and acquire a self-critical attitude to their own work and achievements. Consequently each student will develop practices which will enable them to engage with ongoing professional development throughout their careers.

All staff use the Keele Learning Environment and/or MS Teams to post learning resources for the modules on which they teach; these include lecture notes, recorded lectures and screencasts, module and laboratory handbooks, problem sheets, web- links to external resources, assignment briefs, assignment feedback and in some cases quizzes. Staff also use the KLE for electronic submission of work, marking and feedback and MS Teams to hold online tutorials, lectures and problem classes.

Apart from these formal activities, students are also provided with regular opportunities to talk through particular areas of difficulty, and any special learning needs they may have, with their Academic Mentors or module lecturers on a one-to-one basis.

These learning and teaching methods enable students to achieve the learning outcomes of the programme in a variety of ways.

6. Teaching Staff

The teaching staff comprise a number of expert academics within the School of Chemical and Physical Sciences (SCPS) at Keele University with active research interests in a range of scientific disciplines. The teaching and research profiles of the staff that currently deliver and support the programmes in the school can be found at: <https://www.keele.ac.uk/scps/ourpeople>

The SCPS academic staff involved in the MSc Analytical Sciences have expertise and interests in analytical chemistry and forensic science with some also have professional experience in commercial laboratories. In addition to the members of the programme team who deliver and coordinate individual modules, other relevant Faculty of Natural Science staff support the MSc Analytical Sciences through research project supervision at Keele and professional and technical support.

Academic staff are active researchers and many have a distinguished track record in publications, the generation of research grant income, national and international collaborations and journal editorship. Additionally, many staff contribute to widening participation and science outreach activities, and have demonstrated innovation and good practice in teaching and learning to take account of the diverse needs and disabilities of all students.

The University will attempt to minimise changes to our core teaching teams, however, delivery of the programme depends on having a sufficient number of staff with the relevant expertise to ensure that the programme is taught to the appropriate academic standard.

Staff turnover, for example where key members of staff leave, fall ill or go on research leave, may result in changes to the programme's content. The University will endeavour to ensure that any impact on students is limited if such changes occur.

7. What is the structure of the programme?

The academic year runs from September to September and is divided into three semesters. The number of weeks of teaching will vary from course to course, but you can generally expect to attend scheduled teaching sessions between the end of September and mid-December, and from mid-January to the end of April. Our degree courses are organised into modules. Each module is usually a self-contained unit of study and each is usually assessed separately with the award of credits on the basis of 1 credit = 10 hours of student effort. An outline of the structure of the programme is provided in the tables below.

A summary of the credit requirements is as follows.

Year	Compulsory	Optional	
		Min	Max
Level 7	90	90	90

Module Lists

Level 7

Full-time route

Compulsory modules	Module Code	Credits	Period
Professional Scientist Toolkit	CPS-40007	30	Semester 1
Forensic Analysis: From Academia to Industry	FSC-40043	15	Semester 1
Analytical Science: Principles and Practice	CPS-40003	30	Semester 1-2
The Business of Science	CPS-40009	15	Semester 2

Optional modules	Module Code	Credits	Period
Academic English for Postgraduate Students 1	ENL-40001	15	Semester 1
Professional Development Portfolio (30 credits)	CPS-40011	30	Semester 1-3
Professional Development Portfolio (15 credits)	CPS-40015	15	Semester 1-3
Independent Research Project	CPS-40005	60	Semester 2-3
Industrial Research Project	CPS-40013	60	Semester 2-3

Level 7 Module Rules

Students are required to choose CPS-40011 or CPS-40015 and CPS-40005 or CPS-40013. CPS-40013 can only be taken by those students who are carrying out an industrial research project in collaboration with a partner external to the university. These can be carried out at Keele or at the external partner's facilities. CPS-40015 is only available to those students who are required to take ENL-40001.

Part-time route

Compulsory modules	Module Code	Credits	Year/Period
Analytical Science - From Academia to Industry	FSC-40043	15	Year 1/ Semester 1
Analytical Science - Principles and Practice	CPS-40003	30	Year 1/ Semester 1-2
The Business of Science	CPS-40009	15	Year 1/ Semester 2
Professional Scientist Toolkit	CPS-40007	30	Year 2/ Semester 1

Optional modules	Module Code	Credits	Period
Professional Development Portfolio	CPS-40011	30	Year 1/ Semester 1-3
Professional Development Portfolio	CPS-40015	15	Year 1/ Semester 1-3
Independent Research Project	CPS-40005	60	Year 2/ Semester 2-3
Industrial Research Project	CPS-40013	60	Year 2/ Semester 2-3
Academic English for PG Students	ENL-40001	15	Year 1/ Semester 1

The part-time route will be undertaken over a period of 2 years. This will involve 90 credits of taught content per year split over 3 semesters.

Learning Outcomes

The table below sets out what students learn in the programme and the modules in which that learning takes place. Details of how learning outcomes are assessed through these modules can be found in module specifications.

Level 7

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Subject Knowledge and Understanding	
Learning Outcome	Module in which this is delivered
The theoretical basis for a range of different analytical techniques and their practical application in real-world settings.	Analytical Science: Principles and Practice - CPS-40003 Independent Research Project - CPS-40005 Professional Scientist Toolkit - CPS-40007 Industrial Research Project - CPS-40013 Forensic Analysis: From Academia to Industry - FSC-40043
Experimental design to solve a range of real-world problems, including the selection of appropriate data analysis techniques.	Analytical Science: Principles and Practice - CPS-40003 Independent Research Project - CPS-40005 Industrial Research Project - CPS-40013 Forensic Analysis: From Academia to Industry - FSC-40043
Statistical approaches used for treatment of data obtained from experimentation, including univariate and multivariate analysis.	Analytical Science: Principles and Practice - CPS-40003 Independent Research Project - CPS-40005 Industrial Research Project - CPS-40013 Forensic Analysis: From Academia to Industry - FSC-40043
A range of analytical techniques and their practical application to a range of different sample matrices, including the preparation steps required to prepare these samples for analysis.	Analytical Science: Principles and Practice - CPS-40003 Independent Research Project - CPS-40005 Professional Scientist Toolkit - CPS-40007 Industrial Research Project - CPS-40013 Forensic Analysis: From Academia to Industry - FSC-40043
The wider business context of the commercial scientific environment, including the strategic, operational, and regulatory factors that influence how science is applied in industry.	The Business of Science - CPS-40009 Forensic Analysis: From Academia to Industry - FSC-40043
The additional regulatory requirements needed when conducting scientific research in a commercial laboratory such as method validation and quality assurance.	The Business of Science - CPS-40009 Forensic Analysis: From Academia to Industry - FSC-40043

Subject Specific Skills	
Learning Outcome	Module in which this is delivered
Apply a wide range of instrumental and other analytical techniques competently to examine relevant materials, considering quality assurance requirements and the inherent limitations of each method.	Analytical Science: Principles and Practice - CPS-40003 Independent Research Project - CPS-40005 Industrial Research Project - CPS-40013 Forensic Analysis: From Academia to Industry - FSC-40043
Use the research literature in analytical science, including regulations and method validation, to advance understanding and inform practice.	Independent Research Project - CPS-40005 Professional Scientist Toolkit - CPS-40007 Industrial Research Project - CPS-40013 Forensic Analysis: From Academia to Industry - FSC-40043
Execute practical work and critically analyse the resulting experimental data to draw valid conclusions, through setting-up examples of standard analytical instrumentation (including calibration).	Analytical Science: Principles and Practice - CPS-40003 Independent Research Project - CPS-40005 Industrial Research Project - CPS-40013 Forensic Analysis: From Academia to Industry - FSC-40043
Describe and explain appropriate methods for data analysis and interpretation and apply these to experimental datasets of varying complexity, using a selection of appropriate software, databases and other digital resources.	Analytical Science: Principles and Practice - CPS-40003 Independent Research Project - CPS-40005 Professional Scientist Toolkit - CPS-40007 Industrial Research Project - CPS-40013 Forensic Analysis: From Academia to Industry - FSC-40043
Work safely and effectively in the laboratory, managing risk assessments and laboratory practices competently whilst maintaining accurate and relevant records.	Analytical Science: Principles and Practice - CPS-40003 Independent Research Project - CPS-40005 Industrial Research Project - CPS-40013 Forensic Analysis: From Academia to Industry - FSC-40043
Appreciate the importance of data integrity and quality assurance.	The Business of Science - CPS-40009 Forensic Analysis: From Academia to Industry - FSC-40043
Carry out routine commercial tasks such as market research, competitor analysis, project planning and budgeting	The Business of Science - CPS-40009

Key or Transferable Skills (graduate attributes)	
Learning Outcome	Module in which this is delivered
Evaluate their personal research and professional skills and act upon the outcomes to enhance these skills and subsequently tackle and solve problems with confidence and independence, and act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level.	Analytical Science: Principles and Practice - CPS-40003 Independent Research Project - CPS-40005 Professional Development Portfolio (30 credits) - CPS-40011 Industrial Research Project - CPS-40013 Professional Development Portfolio (15 credits) - CPS-40015 Forensic Analysis: From Academia to Industry - FSC-40043
Communicate scientific information effectively using multiple formats, adapting their approach to inform and engage both specialist and lay audiences, through activities such as presenting at conferences, academic writing, and outreach.	Professional Scientist Toolkit - CPS-40007 Professional Development Portfolio (30 credits) - CPS-40011 Professional Development Portfolio (15 credits) - CPS-40015 Forensic Analysis: From Academia to Industry - FSC-40043
Interpret scientific literature relevant to their chosen research area to inform research and practice.	Independent Research Project - CPS-40005 Professional Scientist Toolkit - CPS-40007 Industrial Research Project - CPS-40013 Forensic Analysis: From Academia to Industry - FSC-40043
Demonstrate key leadership and management skills such as how to manage a team and plan a project.	The Business of Science - CPS-40009
Appreciate the 'commercial' considerations that need to part of any research carried out in industry, such as intellectual property rights.	The Business of Science - CPS-40009 Forensic Analysis: From Academia to Industry - FSC-40043
Understand the ethical implications of their research.	Independent Research Project - CPS-40005 Professional Scientist Toolkit - CPS-40007 Industrial Research Project - CPS-40013
Be able to 'sell' themselves to potential employers in both written and oral forms.	Professional Development Portfolio (30 credits) - CPS-40011 Professional Development Portfolio (15 credits) - CPS-40015
Competently plan, organise and manage a programme of independent experimental work, and to demonstrate self-direction, dedication and originality to independent learning.	Independent Research Project - CPS-40005 Industrial Research Project - CPS-40013 Forensic Analysis: From Academia to Industry - FSC-40043
Understand the need to comply with local health and safety rules, and the necessity for risk assessment and the health and safety issues relevant to the laboratory research work.	Analytical Science: Principles and Practice - CPS-40003 Independent Research Project - CPS-40005 The Business of Science - CPS-40009 Industrial Research Project - CPS-40013 Forensic Analysis: From Academia to Industry - FSC-40043
Promote an integrated approach to theoretical knowledge, understanding and practical implications of the analytical work alongside personal thoughts and experiences, and show originality in the application of new knowledge.	Independent Research Project - CPS-40005 Professional Development Portfolio (30 credits) - CPS-40011 Industrial Research Project - CPS-40013 Professional Development Portfolio (15 credits) - CPS-40015 Forensic Analysis: From Academia to Industry - FSC-40043

8. Final and intermediate awards

Master's Degree MSc Analytical Sciences	180 credits	You will require at least 150 credits at Level 7
Postgraduate Diploma	120 credits	You will require at least 90 credits at Level 7
Postgraduate Certificate	60 credits	You will require at least 45 credits at Level 7

9. How is the Programme Assessed?

The wide variety of assessment methods used on this programme at Keele reflects the broad range of knowledge and skills that are developed as you progress through the degree programme. Teaching staff pay particular attention to specifying clear assessment criteria and providing timely, regular and constructive feedback that helps to clarify things you did not understand and helps you to improve your performance. The following list is representative of the variety of assessment methods used on your programme:

- Laboratory reports
- Literature reviews
- Technical reports
- Reflective diaries
- Oral presentations
- Poster presentations
- Portfolios

Marks are awarded for summative assessments designed to assess your achievement of learning outcomes. You will also be assessed formatively to enable you to monitor your own progress and to assist staff in identifying and addressing any specific learning needs. Feedback, including guidance on how you can improve the quality of your work, is also provided on all summative assessments within three working weeks of submission, unless there are compelling circumstances that make this impossible, and more informally in the course of tutorial and seminar discussions.

10. Accreditation

As this is a new programme for 2026/27 it is not possible to accredit this programme at this point. This is due to the fact that accrediting bodies need to speak with students as part of the accreditation process. During the first year of operation, the accreditation process with the Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC) will be started. The programme has been designed with RSC accreditation in mind, so it is hoped that this will be able to be achieved within the first two years of the programme running.

11. University Regulations

The University Regulations form the framework for learning, teaching and assessment and other aspects of the student experience. Further information about the University Regulations can be found at: <http://www.keele.ac.uk/student-agreement/>

If this programme has any exemptions, variations or additions to the University Regulations these will be detailed in an Annex at the end of this document titled 'Programme-specific regulations'.

12. What are the typical admission requirements for the Programme?

See the relevant course page on the website for the admission requirements relevant to this programme: <https://www.keele.ac.uk/study/>

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) is considered on a case-by-case basis and those interested should contact the Programme Director. The University's guidelines on this can be found here: <https://www.keele.ac.uk/qa/programmesandmodules/recognitionofpriorlearning/>

13. How are students supported on the programme?

Support for student learning on the programme is provided in the following ways:

All the academic staff in the School of Chemical and Physical Sciences operate an open door policy for students; in other words if they are available at any time in the working day then they are happy to discuss any matter a student raises with them; if they are not free then a future meeting will be arranged for a later time.

All students have many opportunities for close contact with the staff - through laboratory sessions, problems

classes, tutorials, workshops and other teaching activities, including online sessions. Consequently, students and staff get to know each other fairly quickly and all students should feel free to approach any lecturer, module tutor or other colleagues whom they believe may be able to provide them with help and assistance on any academic issue. Feedback on formative and summative assessment is usually best obtained from the tutor who set and marked the work but after the whole semester's assessment is complete, it may be that the student's Academic Mentor is best placed to discuss their overall progress.

The Programme lead for the MSc Analytical Sciences programme have oversight of all aspects of delivery of the programme. There is a School Disability Inclusion Tutor (DIT), Director of Education, and a School assigned Student Experience and Support Officer (SESO). In addition we have programme tutors in Assessments, Admissions, Engagement and Careers & Employability.

Help, support and advice are also available from each student's Academic Mentor who is allocated by the School. Academic Mentors will make contact with each student in their first few days at Keele to arrange an introductory meeting and will contact them at various key points throughout their degree to check on their progress and to determine whether any specific discussion is needed. From the student's perspective, the Academic Mentor should be seen as someone they can approach with confidence for advice on any matter whether academic or personal; if the mentors themselves cannot help directly then they know who within the university should be able to provide the help the student needs. As well as reviewing overall academic progress, the Academic Mentor can advise on general matters relating to the whole programme of study.

A Student Engagement and Retention Lead overviews the work of academic mentors across the School of Chemical and Physical Sciences, and monitoring student attendance and engagement. They are available to provide additional guidance or to help if any problems arise with academic mentoring.

14. Learning Resources

This programme will be taught in modern teaching rooms across the University which are equipped with computers, internet access and projection equipment. Rooms may be arranged either in traditional lecture format or more informally to allow students to work together in small groups. Practical taught sessions will take place in our Central Science Laboratories. This facility is a modern, spacious environment that is well equipped and staffed to enable a wider range of taught activities to be undertaken.

Practical research training will be undertaken in appropriate research laboratories within the Faculty of Natural Sciences and students will experience authentic observation and interpretation via their research activities.

Individual module handbooks will provide a recommended reading list, which comprise both traditional text based resources and a range of electronic multi-media resources that will be accessed through KLE. MS Teams will be used to enhance the student experience, learning and support during the period of engagement and provide a forum for the exchange of ideas and discussion of issues that arise. Where feasible, students will be housed in a PGT office or within the offices available to research groups. Access to the University electronic resources should be available in these offices via Wi-Fi or direct internet connection.

The Library has many resources for analytical science, both on campus and online. Further information about the library can be found at: <https://www.keele.ac.uk/library/>. To access online library services off campus, students can use their Keele username and password, which will be provided upon enrolment.

Students will have access to the IT Services at the University located in the library building. IT Services are responsible for the computing infrastructure in the university and for the support of all staff and students undertaking academic computing tasks. There is a large number of open access PCs available for students. All student PCs use a standard platform, which includes software such as Microsoft Office, web browsers, and other technical applications that may be needed. Printing facilities are available either in Schools or in the library building.

15. Additional Costs

Equipment - All PPE equipment (laboratory coats and glasses) are provided by the School at no cost to the student. Students will be required to have two laboratory notebooks, these are provided at no cost to the student in the induction session and can be used for multiple modules/years. Replacement items are available from the School Stores, the 2025/26 price for these are listed below:

Laboratory Book - £2.00 Laboratory Glasses - £3.50 Laboratory Coat - £15

These costs have been forecast by the University as accurately as possible but may be subject to change as a result of factors outside of our control (for example, increase in costs for external services). Forecast costs are reviewed on an annual basis to ensure they remain representative. Where additional costs are in direct control of the University we will ensure increases do not exceed 5%.

As to be expected there will be additional costs for inter-library loans and potential overdue library fines, print and graduation. We do not anticipate any further costs for this programme.

16. Quality management and enhancement

The quality and standards of learning in this programme are subject to a continuous process of monitoring, review and enhancement.

- The School Education Committee is responsible for reviewing and monitoring quality management and enhancement procedures and activities across the School.
- Individual modules and the programme as a whole are reviewed and enhanced every year in the annual programme review which takes place at the end of the academic year.
- The programmes are run in accordance with the University's Quality Assurance procedures and are subject to periodic reviews under the Revalidation process.

Student evaluation of, and feedback on, the quality of learning on every module takes place every year using a variety of different methods:

- The results of student evaluations of all modules are reported to module leaders and reviewed by the Programme Committee as part of annual programme review.
- Findings related to the programme from the annual Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey (PTES), and from regular surveys of the student experience conducted by the University, are subjected to careful analysis and a planned response at programme and School level.
- Feedback received from representatives of students on the programme is considered and acted on at regular meetings of the Student Staff Voice Committee.

The University appoints senior members of academic staff from other universities to act as external examiners on all programmes. They are responsible for:

- Approving examination questions
- Confirming all marks which contribute to a student's degree
- Reviewing and giving advice on the structure and content of the programme and assessment procedures

Information about current external examiner(s) can be found here:

<http://www.keele.ac.uk/qa/externalexaminers/currentexternalexaminers/>

17. The principles of programme design

The programme described in this document has been drawn up with reference to, and in accordance with the guidance set out in, the following documents:

- a. UK Quality Code for Higher Education, Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education: <http://www.qaa.ac.uk/quality-code>
- b. QAA Subject Benchmark Statement: [Subject Benchmark Statement: Chemistry](#) March 2022
- c. Keele University Regulations and Guidance for Students and Staff: <http://www.keele.ac.uk/regulations>
- d. Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC) Accreditation Standards; available at <https://www.rsc.org/standards-and-recognition/accreditation/degree-accreditation>

Version History

This document

Date Approved: 09 June 2026

Previous documents

Version No	Year	Owner	Date Approved	Summary of and rationale for changes
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