Programme Specification: Undergraduate

For Academic Year 2026/27

1. Course Summary

Names of programme and award title(s)	BSc (Hons) Chemistry BSc (Hons) Chemistry with International Year (see Annex for details) BSc (Hons) Chemistry with Work Placement Year (see Annex for details)
Award type	Combined Honours
Mode of study	Full-time
Framework of Higher Education Qualification (FHEQ) level of final award	Level 6
Normal length of the programme	3 years; 4 years with either the International Year or Placement Year between years 2 and 3
Maximum period of registration	The normal length as specified above plus 3 years
Location of study	Keele Campus
Accreditation (if applicable)	The combined honours degrees, 'BSc (Hons) Chemistry WITH Subject X', 'BSc (Hons) Chemistry WITH Subject X with International Year', and 'BSc (Hons) Chemistry WITH Subject X with Work Placement Year', which specialise in Chemistry in the final year, are accredited by the Royal Society of Chemistry.
Regulator	Office for Students (OfS)
Tuition Fees	**UK students:** Fee for 2024/25 is £9,250* **International students:** Fee for 2024/25 is £20,700** The fee for the international year abroad is calculated at 15% of the standard year fee The fee for the industrial placement year is calculated at 20% of the standard year fee

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.*

** These fees are regulated by Government. We reserve the right to increase fees in subsequent years of study in response to changes in government policy and/or changes to the law. If permitted by such change in policy or law, we may increase your fees by an inflationary amount or such other measure as required by government policy or the law. Please refer to the accompanying Student Terms & Conditions. Further information on fees can be found at http://www.keele.ac.uk/studentfunding/tuitionfees/*

*** These fees are for new students. 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. What is a Combined Honours programme?

Combined Honours degrees are degrees that are taken in two different subjects, resulting in an X and Y degree title, for example *Chemistry and Physics*. If you are taking a Combined Honours programme, these will be the two subjects you applied for. These are referred to as your Principal Subjects.

In a Combined Honours degree you must take at least 135 credits in each Principal Subject (270 credits in total), accrued over all three levels of study, with at least 45 credits at each level of study (Levels 4, 5 and 6) in each of two Principal Subjects (90 credits per year). The remaining available credits can be filled with modules from these subjects or other subjects entirely.

As a Combined Honours student you can choose to study just one subject in your final year of study, taking a minimum of 90 credits in this subject. This will result in an X with Y degree title, for example *Chemistry with Physics.*

Note: For clarity, this document refers to each level of study by its FHEQ level. Year 1 corresponds to Level 4, Year 2 to Level 5, and Year 3 to Level 6.

Level	Combined Honours	Combined Honours (Specialisation)	Combined Honours (International Year)	Combined Honours (Work Placement Year)
4	60 credits Chemistry	60 credits Chemistry	60 credits Chemistry	60 credits Chemistry
	60 credits Subject X	60 credits Subject X	60 credits Subject X	60 credits Subject X
5	60 credits Chemistry	60 credits Chemistry	60 credits Chemistry	60 credits Chemistry
	60 credits Subject X	60 credits Subject X	60 credits Subject X	60 credits Subject X
International Year			Equivalent of 120 credits (Pass/Fail)	
Placement Year				Equivalent of 120 credits (Pass/Fail)
6	60 credits Chemistry	105-120 credits Chemistry	60-120 credits Chemistry	60-120 credits Chemistry
	60 credits Subject X	0-15 credits Option	0-60 credits Subject X 0-15 credits Option	0-60 credits Subject X 0-15 credits Option
Total	180 credits Chemistry 180 credits Subject X	225-240 credits Chemistry 120 credits Subject X 0-15 credits Option	180-240 credits Chemistry 120-180 credits Subject X 0-15 credits Option	180-240 credits Chemistry 120-180 credits Subject X 0-15 credits Option
Degree	BSc Chemistry AND X	BSc Chemistry WITH X	BSc Chemistry AND X with International Year, or BSc Chemistry WITH X with International Year	BSc Chemistry AND X with Industrial Placement Year, or BSc Chemistry WITH X with Industrial Placement Year

3. Overview of the Programme

Chemistry is the central science, disciplined in experimental approach, highly creative in its thinking and life-enhancing in impact. The contribution of chemistry to our modern world ranges from advanced materials in gadgets, and high-tech materials used on the International Space Station, to life-saving drugs that are essential

to modern medicine. The wide diversity of chemistry is reflected in teaching and research at Keele University.

In the first and second year, the taught content covers the core material for study, introducing you to concepts that are developed in workshops and laboratory classes. Assessment is through a range of items including reports, presentations, practical assessment, applied activities and end of module asssessments. You will receive comprehensive feedback on assessed work in a variety of formats including written, audio, and face- to-face methods.

In your final year, the taught content covers research-focused material. Assessment includes exams and coursework designed to further develop information retrieval and critical thinking skills. Project work is in the format of a research project module and/or a dissertation module. Research project work is assessed through the evaluation of the laboratory diary, an oral examination and writing of a scientific paper, whereas the dissertation module focuses on the writing of a peer-reviewed literature dissertation and the presentation of these findings. You have access throughout your degree to excellent laboratory facilities that are exceptionally well equipped with computational facilities and research grade chemical instrumentation. The structure of the programme is designed to enable you to enhance your employability through the development of problem-solving, presentational and communication skills as well as developing your research skills and your capacity to learn independently. If you take advantage of the full range of opportunities the programme offers, you will have acquired the knowledge and skills to present yourself with confidence in pursuit of your chosen career in a competitive world.

4. Aims of the programme

The broad aims of the programme are to:

- equip you with a depth and breadth of chemistry knowledge,
- develop a wide range of laboratory and analytical skills,
- develop enhanced problem solving, research and communication skills.

5. 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
- Intellectual skills
- Key or transferable skills (including employability skills)

Subject knowledge and understanding

Successful students will be able to demonstrate:

- knowledge of the major aspects of chemical terminology and vocabulary
- knowledge and understanding of fundamental physicochemical principles
- knowledge of a range of inorganic and organic materials
- understanding of general synthetic pathways, including related isolation, purification and characterisation techniques
- awareness of issues within chemistry that overlap with other related disciplines
- knowledge of selected aspects of chemistry at the forefront of the discipline
- knowledge of aspects of chemical science research methods and peer-reviewed chemical science literature

Subject specific skills

Successful students will be able to:

- demonstrate skills in the safe-handling of chemical materials, taking into account their physical and chemical properties including any specific hazards associated with their use
- conduct risk assessments
- conduct documented laboratory procedures in synthetic and analytical work, in relation to both inorganic and organic systems
- monitor, by observation and measurement, chemical properties, events or changes, with systematic and reliable recording and documentation thereof
- operate standard chemical instrumentation
- interpret and explain the limits of accuracy of their own experimental data in terms of significance and underlying theory

Intellectual skills

Successful students will be able to:

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding of essential chemistry-related facts, concepts, principles and theories
- apply such knowledge and understanding to the solution of qualitative and quantitative problems, both familiar and unfamiliar
- recognise and analyse problems and plan strategies for their solution
- evaluate, interpret and synthesise chemical information and data
- carry out practical application of theory using computer software and models
- communicate scientific material and arguments
- use information technology (IT) to manipulate and present chemical information and data

Key or transferable skills (including employability skills)

Successful students will be able to:

- communicate information, ideas, problems, and solutions to both specialist and non-specialist audiences orally and in writing
- demonstrate problem-solving skills, relating to qualitative and quantitative information
- demonstrate numeracy and mathematical skills, including such aspects as error analysis, order-of-magnitude estimations, correct use of units and modes of data presentation
- retrieve and cite information, in relation to primary and secondary information sources, including retrieval of information through online computer searches
- demonstrate skills in the use of information technology for presenting information and data
- interact with other people and engage in team-working, time management and organisational skills, as evidenced by the ability to plan and implement efficient and effective modes of working
- show development of skills and awareness necessary to seek out opportunities to undertake appropriate further training of a professional nature

The 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.

6. 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 methods of delivery:

- Lectures
- Seminars, interactive problems, discussions and self-tests
- Interactive personal response systems
- Screencasts
- Recorded lectures
- Tablet PCs
- Demonstrations
- Detailed personalised and generic written and face-to-face feedback
- Electronic submission and return of marked coursework (with feedback)
- Audio feedback
- Screencast feedback
- Pre-laboratory and post-laboratory exercises
- Laboratory classes
- Research projects
- Problem classes and workshops
- Team based learning
- Problem-based and context-based activities
- IT instruction (spread sheets, word-processing, chemical structure drawing, databases, textbook

resources, information retrieval and literature searching)
- Group work
- Self and peer-assessment for learning
- Information literacy activities
- Computer-aided learning (simulations and animations, online activities and exercises)
- Case studies
- Chemical Sciences Seminar Series
- Use of e-learning/the Keele Learning Environment (KLE)

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.

7. Teaching Staff

A dynamic group of staff with a broad range of expertise teach on the programme and bring a wealth of experience acquired through fundamental and applied research across a diverse range of areas. Some current staff members are internationally recognised leaders in their field and manage research groups comprising postgraduate research students and postdoctoral researchers, some of whom contribute to the teaching on the programme. Reflecting the diverse range of research expertise, some staff members also contribute to the Forensic Science, Physics/Astrophysics, and Environmental Science programmes at Keele. Many current teaching staff hold, or are working towards an accredited Higher Education Teaching qualification and many are Fellows (FHEA) or Senior Fellows (SFHEA) of the Higher Education Academy, the professional body for teachers in Higher Education. A number of the teaching staff have established a national reputation for excellence in teaching and learning and have been recognised for their innovation in teaching through university and national teaching excellence awards, and the attraction of funding for teaching innovation projects.

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.

8. What is the structure of the Programme?

The academic year runs from September to June and is divided into two semesters. The number of weeks of teaching will vary from programme to programme, 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.

Course Transfers

It is possible to transfer onto the following courses from BSc Chemistry according to the deadlines given. Please consult the respective programme specification for full details.

Degree Title	Duration	Transfer Deadline
BSc Chemistry (Single Honours)	3 years	Transfer by week 1 of semester 1 of year 2
MChem Chemistry (Single Honours)	4 years	*Transfer by week 1 of semester 1 of year 3

* Students wishing to do this must speak to a member of the programme management team before the request can be approved.

Credit Requirements

Our Chemistry 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.

There are two types of module delivered as part of your programme. They are:

- Compulsory modules - a Chemistry module that you are required to study on this course;
- Optional modules - modules which allow you some limited choice of what to study from a list of modules.

Modern Language modules: You are able to take up to 60 credits across your degree programme as Faculty Funded additional Modern Language modules in order to graduate with the Enhanced Degree Title. [Please see link for more information on Enhanced degree titles.]

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For further information on the content of modules currently offered please visit: https://www.keele.ac.uk/recordsandexams/modulecatalogue/

A summary of the credit requirements per year is as follows, with a minimum of 90 subject credits (compulsory plus optional) required for each year across both of your Principal Subjects. This document has information about *Chemistry* modules only; please also see the document for your other subject.

Year	Compulsory	Optional	
		Min	Max
Level 6	15	45	45

In year 3 there is the option to choose to specialise in Chemistry, taking either 105 or 120 credits in Chemistry rather than taking modules from both subjects.

Module Lists

Level 6

In Year 3, increasingly sophisticated theories and ideas are introduced which require you to draw upon, integrate and extend the fundamental chemical principles introduced during Years 1 and 2. Choice of Chemistry modules is available to allow you to pursue your specific interests, as well as choice within the Topics in Chemical Science module. Course work is designed to allow you to develop a range of subject specific skills, focusing on engaging with scientific literature and experimental data sets, and working towards the Graduate Attributes through presentation, interviews and various written reports. You will also carry out a 15-credit Chemistry Literature Review or Project (selected from a wide variety of research projects on offer) which places increased emphasis on your ability to work independently and critically evaluate practical investigations and the peer-reviewed scientific literature

Compulsory modules	Module Code	Credits	Period
Topics in Chemical Science	CHE-30074	15	Semester 2

Optional modules	Module Code	Credits	Period
Inorganic, Physical and Quantum Chemistry	CHE-30072	15	Semester 1
Kinetics, Catalysis and Mechanism	CHE-30078	15	Semester 1
Synthetic Strategies in Organic Chemistry	CHE-30080	15	Semester 1
Independent Research Project	CHE-30066	15	Semester 1-2
Scientific Literature Review	CHE-30068	15	Semester 1-2

If you choose to specialise in this subject in your final year you will study the following modules:

Compulsory modules	Module Code	Credits	Period
Inorganic, Physical and Quantum Chemistry	CHE-30072	15	Semester 1
Kinetics, Catalysis and Mechanism	CHE-30078	15	Semester 1
Synthetic Strategies in Organic Chemistry	CHE-30080	15	Semester 1
Independent Research Project	CHE-30066	15	Semester 1-2
Scientific Literature Review	CHE-30068	15	Semester 1-2
Topics in Chemical Science	CHE-30074	15	Semester 2

Optional modules	Module Code	Credits	Period
Flexible Work Placement (Level 6)	NAT-30008	15	Semester 1-2
Professional Experience in Education	NAT-30012	15	Semester 1-2
Chemical Analysis: Instrumentation and Evaluation	CHE-30070	15	Semester 2
Forensic Toxicology: Ingestion to Detection	FSC-30039	15	Semester 2

Level 6 Module Rules

Combined Honours:

Optional module selection (standard route)

- Students must select one year-long project module (either CHE-30066 or CHE-30068)
- Students must select two modules from the three optional modules: CHE-30072, CHE-30078 and CHE-30080).

Major Route:

Optional module selection (specialising in Chemistry)

- Students may select one 15 credit placement/professional module or a 15 credit module from their second subject, subject to availability.

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 6

Subject Knowledge and Understanding	
Learning Outcome	**Module in which this is delivered**
Knowledge of the major aspects of chemical terminology and vocabulary	Inorganic, Physical and Quantum Chemistry - CHE-30072 Topics in Chemical Science - CHE-30074 Kinetics, Catalysis and Mechanism - CHE-30078 Synthetic Strategies in Organic Chemistry - CHE-30080
Knowledge and understanding of fundamental physicochemical principles	Inorganic, Physical and Quantum Chemistry - CHE-30072 Topics in Chemical Science - CHE-30074 Kinetics, Catalysis and Mechanism - CHE-30078
Knowledge of a range of inorganic and organic materials	Inorganic, Physical and Quantum Chemistry - CHE-30072 Topics in Chemical Science - CHE-30074 Kinetics, Catalysis and Mechanism - CHE-30078 Synthetic Strategies in Organic Chemistry - CHE-30080
Understanding of general synthetic pathways, including related isolation, purification and characterisation techniques	Kinetics, Catalysis and Mechanism - CHE-30078 Synthetic Strategies in Organic Chemistry - CHE-30080
Awareness of issues within chemistry that overlap with other related disciplines	Inorganic, Physical and Quantum Chemistry - CHE-30072 Topics in Chemical Science - CHE-30074 Kinetics, Catalysis and Mechanism - CHE-30078 Synthetic Strategies in Organic Chemistry - CHE-30080
Knowledge of selected aspects of chemistry at the forefront of the discipline	Independent Research Project - CHE-30066 Scientific Literature Review - CHE-30068 Inorganic, Physical and Quantum Chemistry - CHE-30072 Topics in Chemical Science - CHE-30074 Kinetics, Catalysis and Mechanism - CHE-30078 Synthetic Strategies in Organic Chemistry - CHE-30080
Knowledge of aspects of chemical science research methods and peer-reviewed chemical science literature	Independent Research Project - CHE-30066 Scientific Literature Review - CHE-30068 Inorganic, Physical and Quantum Chemistry - CHE-30072 Topics in Chemical Science - CHE-30074 Kinetics, Catalysis and Mechanism - CHE-30078 Synthetic Strategies in Organic Chemistry - CHE-30080
The ability to adapt and apply methodology to the solution of unfamiliar problems	Independent Research Project - CHE-30066
The ability to design and plan experiments through selection of appropriate techniques and procedures, and to evaluate critically the outcomes of those experiments	Independent Research Project - CHE-30066

Subject Specific Skills	
Learning Outcome	**Module in which this is delivered**
Demonstrate skills in the safe- handling of chemical materials, taking into account their physical and chemical properties including any specific hazards associated with their use	Independent Research Project - CHE-30066
Conduct risk assessments	Independent Research Project - CHE-30066
Conduct documented laboratory procedures in synthetic and analytical work, in relation to both inorganic and organic systems	Independent Research Project - CHE-30066
Monitor, by observation and measurement, chemical properties, events or changes, with systematic and reliable recording and documentation thereof	Independent Research Project - CHE-30066
Operate standard chemical instrumentation	Independent Research Project - CHE-30066
Interpret and explain the limits of accuracy of their own experimental data in terms of significance and underlying theory	Independent Research Project - CHE-30066
Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of essential chemistry-related facts, concepts, principles and theories	Inorganic, Physical and Quantum Chemistry - CHE-30072 Topics in Chemical Science - CHE-30074 Kinetics, Catalysis and Mechanism - CHE-30078 Synthetic Strategies in Organic Chemistry - CHE-30080
Apply such knowledge and understanding to the solution of qualitative and quantitative problems, both familiar and unfamiliar	Inorganic, Physical and Quantum Chemistry - CHE-30072 Topics in Chemical Science - CHE-30074 Kinetics, Catalysis and Mechanism - CHE-30078 Synthetic Strategies in Organic Chemistry - CHE-30080
Evaluate, interpret and synthesise chemical information and data	Independent Research Project - CHE-30066 Scientific Literature Review - CHE-30068 Inorganic, Physical and Quantum Chemistry - CHE-30072 Topics in Chemical Science - CHE-30074 Kinetics, Catalysis and Mechanism - CHE-30078 Synthetic Strategies in Organic Chemistry - CHE-30080
Carry out practical application of theory using computer software and models	Independent Research Project - CHE-30066 Inorganic, Physical and Quantum Chemistry - CHE-30072 Kinetics, Catalysis and Mechanism - CHE-30078
Use information technology (IT) to manipulate and present chemical information and data	Independent Research Project - CHE-30066 Scientific Literature Review - CHE-30068 Chemical Analysis: Instrumentation and Evaluation - CHE-30070 Inorganic, Physical and Quantum Chemistry - CHE-30072 Topics in Chemical Science - CHE-30074 Kinetics, Catalysis and Mechanism - CHE-30078 Synthetic Strategies in Organic Chemistry - CHE-30080

Key or Transferable Skills (graduate attributes)	
Learning Outcome	**Module in which this is delivered**
Recognise and analyse problems and plan strategies for their solution	Independent Research Project - CHE-30066
Communicate scientific material and arguments	Independent Research Project - CHE-30066 Scientific Literature Review - CHE-30068 Inorganic, Physical and Quantum Chemistry - CHE-30072 Topics in Chemical Science - CHE-30074 Kinetics, Catalysis and Mechanism - CHE-30078 Synthetic Strategies in Organic Chemistry - CHE-30080
Communicate information, ideas, problems, and solutions to both specialist and non- specialist audiences orally and in writing	Independent Research Project - CHE-30066 Scientific Literature Review - CHE-30068 Inorganic, Physical and Quantum Chemistry - CHE-30072 Topics in Chemical Science - CHE-30074 Kinetics, Catalysis and Mechanism - CHE-30078 Synthetic Strategies in Organic Chemistry - CHE-30080
Demonstrate problem-solving skills, relating to qualitative and quantitative information	Independent Research Project - CHE-30066 Scientific Literature Review - CHE-30068 Chemical Analysis: Instrumentation and Evaluation - CHE-30070 Inorganic, Physical and Quantum Chemistry - CHE-30072 Topics in Chemical Science - CHE-30074 Kinetics, Catalysis and Mechanism - CHE-30078 Synthetic Strategies in Organic Chemistry - CHE-30080
Demonstrate numeracy and mathematical skills, including such aspects as error analysis, order-of-magnitude estimations, correct use of units and modes of data presentation	Independent Research Project - CHE-30066 Inorganic, Physical and Quantum Chemistry - CHE-30072 Topics in Chemical Science - CHE-30074 Kinetics, Catalysis and Mechanism - CHE-30078
Retrieve and cite information, in relation to primary and secondary information sources, including retrieval of information through online computer searches	Independent Research Project - CHE-30066 Scientific Literature Review - CHE-30068 Inorganic, Physical and Quantum Chemistry - CHE-30072 Topics in Chemical Science - CHE-30074 Kinetics, Catalysis and Mechanism - CHE-30078 Synthetic Strategies in Organic Chemistry - CHE-30080
Demonstrate skills in the use of information technology for presenting information and data	Independent Research Project - CHE-30066 Scientific Literature Review - CHE-30068 Inorganic, Physical and Quantum Chemistry - CHE-30072 Topics in Chemical Science - CHE-30074 Kinetics, Catalysis and Mechanism - CHE-30078 Synthetic Strategies in Organic Chemistry - CHE-30080
Interact with other people and engage in team-working, time management and organisational skills, as evidenced by the ability to plan and implement efficient and effective modes of working	Inorganic, Physical and Quantum Chemistry - CHE-30072 Kinetics, Catalysis and Mechanism - CHE-30078 Synthetic Strategies in Organic Chemistry - CHE-30080
Show development of skills and awareness necessary to seek out opportunities to undertake appropriate further training of a professional nature	Independent Research Project - CHE-30066

Key or Transferable Skills (graduate attributes)	
Learning Outcome	**Module in which this is delivered**
Demonstrate self-direction, initiative and originality when solving problems	Independent Research Project - CHE-30066

9. Final and intermediate awards

Credits required for each level of academic award are as follows:

Honours Degree	360 credits	You will require at least 120 credits at levels 4, 5 and 6 You must accumulate a minimum of 135 credits in each Principal Subject (270 credits in total), with at least 45 credits at each level of study (Levels 4, 5 and 6) in each of two Principal Subjects (90 credits per year). Your degree title will be 'subject X and subject Y'. If you choose to study one Principal subject in your final year of study a minimum of 90 credits in that subject is required. Your degree title will be 'subject X with subject Y'.
Diploma in Higher Education	240 credits	You will require at least 120 credits at level 4 or higher and at least 120 credits at level 5 or higher
Certificate in Higher Education	120 credits	You will require at least 120 credits at level 4 or higher

International Year option: in addition to the above students must pass a module covering the international year in order to graduate with a named degree including the 'international year' wording. Students who do not complete, or fail the international year, will be transferred to the three-year version of the programme.

Work Placement Year option: in addition to the above students must pass a non-credit bearing module covering the work placement year in order to graduate with a named degree including the 'with Work Placement Year' wording. Students who do not complete, or fail the work placement year, will be transferred to the three-year version of the programme.

10. 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:

- **Unseen written examinations** test students' knowledge and understanding of the subject. Examinations may consist of long or short answer questions
- **Pre-laboratory exercises** - structured exercises designed to increase students understanding of the theory and techniques required by a specific laboratory practical and may require the student to read the lab script, watch short videos of techniques, perform calculations, answer short questions and look up information
- **Laboratory reports** are structured proformas and full lab reports are formal summaries of work carried out in the laboratory and test students' understanding of the practical aspects of the programme and develop the skills necessary to enable students to present and analyse their results.
- **Laboratory diaries** are a hand-written record of work carried out in laboratory sessions, maintained regularly and kept in accordance with laboratory diary checklists and guidelines provided in the laboratory script. Typically, a selection of experiments carried out in each module will be assessed at the end of the semester
- **Practical examinations** are a series of laboratory or computer based exercises designed to directly assess a student ability to perform a specific procedure or type of data analysis
- **Oral examinations** - students answer questions posed by members of staff on a specific topic such as a laboratory experiment, item of coursework, or a research project
- **IT assignments and computer-based exercises (e.g. spreadsheets exercises)** - various activities designed to assess students' ability to use software to retrieve, analyse and present scientific data in a

variety of formats
- **Class tests** taken either conventionally or online via the Keele Learning Environment (KLE) assess students' subject knowledge and their ability to apply it in a more structured and focused way
- **Information retrieval exercises** require students to locate and analyse information of different types from the internet, various databases, scientific publications and textbooks. The information is then presented in a prescribed written format
- **Research projects and reports** test student's knowledge of different research methodologies and the limits and provisional nature of knowledge. They also enable students to demonstrate their ability to formulate research questions and to answer them using appropriate methods
- **Research proposals** require students to develop an independent research project and think through theoretical problems surrounding methodology and practical concerns relating to, for example, availability of sample, financial restrictions, and time limits. This form of assessment is key to the development of independent research skills and a portfolio of employability skills
- **Oral and poster presentations and reports** assess individual students' subject knowledge and understanding. They also test their ability to work effectively as members of a team, to communicate what they know orally and visually, and to reflect on these processes as part of their own personal development
- **Video/screencast presentations** require students to produce a short video or screencast on a given topic and assess students' knowledge and understanding, and ability to communicate what they know orally and visually, and to reflect on these processes as part of their own personal development
- **Problem sheets** - students submit written answers to short problems testing their ability to apply chemical theories, interpret chemical data and solve mathematical problems
- **Design exercises** allow students to combine their chemical knowledge and data analysis skills with creativity to design drug molecules and synthetic routes to complex molecules

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.

11. Contact Time and Expected Workload

This contact time measure is intended to provide you with an indication of the type of activity you are likely to undertake during this programme. The data is compiled based on module choices and learning patterns of students on similar programmes in previous years. Every effort is made to ensure this data is a realistic representation of what you are likely to experience, but changes to programmes, teaching methods and assessment methods mean this data is representative and not specific.

Undergraduate courses at Keele contain an element of module choice; therefore, individual students will experience a different mix of contact time and assessment types dependent upon their own individual choice of modules. The figures below are an example of activities that a student may expect on your chosen course by year stage of study. Contact time includes scheduled activities such as: lecture, seminar, tutorial, project supervision, demonstration, practical classes and labs, supervised time in labs/workshop, fieldwork and external visits. The figures are based on 1,200 hours of student effort each year for full-time students.

Activity

	Scheduled learning and teaching activities	Guided independent Study	Placements
Year 1 (Level 4)	32.9%	67.1%	0%
Year 2 (Level 5)	36.2%	63.8%	0%
Year 3 (Level 6)	19.1%	80.9%	0%

12. Accreditation

The combined honours degrees, 'BSc (Hons) Chemistry WITH Subject X', 'BSc (Hons) Chemistry WITH Subject X with International Year', and 'BSc (Hons) Chemistry WITH Subject X with Work Placement Year', which specialise in Chemistry in the final year, are accredited by the Royal Society of Chemistry.

13. 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'.

14. 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/

Applicants who are not currently undertaking any formal study or who have been out of formal education for more than 3 years and are not qualified to A-level or BTEC standard may be offered entry to the University's Foundation Year Programme.

Applicants for whom English is not a first language must provide evidence of a recognised qualification in English language. The minimum score for entry to the Programme is Academic IELTS 6.0 or equivalent.

English for Academic Purposes

Please note: All new international students entering the university will provide a sample of Academic English during their registration Using this sample, the Language Centre may allocate you to an English language module which will become compulsory. This will replace any GCP modules. *NB:* students can take an EAP module only with the approval of the English Language Programme Director and are not able to take any other Language modules in the same academic year.

English Language Modules at Level 4:

- Business - ENL-90003 Academic English for Business Students (Part 1); ENL-90004 Academic English for Business Students (2)
- Science - ENL-90013 Academic English for Science Students
- General - ENL-90006 English for Academic Purposes 2; ENL-90001 English for Academic Purposes 3; ENL-90002 English for Academic Purposes 4

English Language Modules at Level 5:

- Business - ENL-90003 Academic English for Business Students (Part 1); ENL-90004 Academic English for Business Students (2)
- Science - ENL-90013 Academic English for Science Students
- General - ENL-90006 English for Academic Purposes 2; ENL-90001 English for Academic Purposes 3; ENL-90002 English for Academic Purposes 4

English Language Modules at Level 6:

- Business - ENL-90003 Academic English for Business Students (Part 1); ENL-90004 Academic English for Business Students (2); ENL-90005 Advanced Business English Communication
- Science - ENL-90013 Academic English for Science Students
- General - ENL-90006 English for Academic Purposes 2; ENL-90001 English for Academic Purposes 3; ENL-90002 English for Academic Purposes 4

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: http://www.keele.ac.uk/qa/accreditationofpriorlearning/

15. How are students supported on the programme?

Academic Mentors: You are allocated an Academic Mentor for the duration of your studies as part of the University's Academic Mentor system and in accordance with the University Code of Practice on Academic Mentoring. The role of the Academic Mentor is to meet formally with you periodically to discuss your progress and performance and to offer support and advice. You can make arrangements to see your Academic Mentor/Subject Tutor at any time.

Use of e-learning/the Keele Learning Environment (KLE): All modules belonging to the Chemistry programmes are supported by learning resources that are accessible to students via the KLE.

Health and Safety: All students admitted to the programme receive detailed training on health and safety in the laboratory and are provided with a Safety Handbook, Safety Glasses and a Laboratory Coat. Other personal

protective equipment will be provided if required.

Students with disabilities, medical conditions or dyslexia: Students admitted to the Chemistry degree programme with disabilities or medical problems are asked to disclose their condition to Student Services. Year tutors and module leaders are responsible for ensuring reasonable adjustments are made.

Support for students on the **International Year** or the **Work Placement Year i**s detailed in the relevant annex at the end of this document.

16. Learning Resources

Chemistry at Keele is based in the Lennard-Jones building and Central Science Laboratories (CSL), which house modern, well-equipped teaching and research laboratory facilities, including up-to-date PC suites and state-of-the-art analytical instrumentation. Electronic resources are accessible on or off campus.

Each module has a site within the university's virtual learning environment (the Keele Learning Environment or KLE), which hosts teaching materials (lecture notes/slides, laboratory scripts, assessments and briefing documents, past examination papers, online quizzes, videos/screencasts and audio clips) and useful links. A module handbook for each module summarises details of the specific learning outcomes, Graduate Attributes, and assessments relating to each module, alongside detailed assessment briefing documents for all assessments.

Interactive lectures and other non-laboratory taught sessions are recorded using the university's lecture capture platform Panopto and are also accessible through the KLE.

Additional learning resources available to you on the programme include:

- An extensive collection of books and journals held in the University Library on campus
- Access to a comprehensive range of ebooks, journals and published papers all available online.
- Bookable study spaces and academic skill development resources and workshops.

17. Other Learning Opportunities

Study Abroad (International Year)

A summary of the International Year, which is a potential option for students after completion of year 2 (Level 5), is provided in the Annex for the International Year.

If you are interested in spending a year studying abroad, then our Study Abroad Tutor will advise and support you in applying.

Work Placement Year

Students have the opportunity to apply directly for the 4-year 'with Work Placement Year' degree programme or to transfer onto the 4-year degree programme at the end of Year-1 and in Year-2 at the end of Semester 1. Students who are initially registered for the 4-year degree programme may transfer onto the 3-year degree programme at any point in time, prior to undertaking their year-long placement. Eligibility rules are included in the Annex.

Students wishing to take the work placement year should meet with the Programme Director to obtain their signature to confirm agreement before they will be allowed to commence their placement.

International students who require a Tier 4 visa must check with the Immigration Compliance Team prior to commencing any form of placement.

A summary of the Work Placement Year, which is a potential option for students after completion of year 2 (Level 5), is provided in the Annex .

18. Additional Costs

Optional costs

There may be optional costs that students can choose to incur to enhance their learning experience. These are not required to complete the course. Details of these optional costs are outlined below to help you plan accordingly.

Activity	Estimated cost
PPE equipment (laboratory coats and glasses) are provided by the School at no cost to the student. Students will be required to have a laboratory notebook, this is 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 - £1.50 Laboratory Glasses - £3.50 Laboratory Coat - £13	£0 - £20
Textbooks and printing: Students will be required to supply appropriate writing equipment and may chose to print copies of lecture materials. All core textbooks are available in the main University Library. To increase the availability of these resources, eBooks are also purchased alongside the printed text where available; these can be accessed through the University Library Catalogue. Additional costs may be incurred if the student wishes to purchase any book for themselves. The 2025/26 cost of purchasing new copies of our core textbooks is approx £250.	£10 - £280

If you specialise in Chemistry in your final year, and elect to take one of the optional modules:

- NAT-30008: Flexible Work Placement (level 6)
- NAT-30012: Professional Experience in Education

You will have to bear the costs of travelling to and from your placement provider, and if necessary, accommodation, food and personal costs. Depending on the placement provider additional costs may include parking permits, travel and transport, suitable clothing, DBS checks, and compulsory health checks.

A small stipend may be available from the placement provider for work placements, but this will need to be explored on a placement-by-placement basis as some organisations, such as charities, may not have any extra money available. Students should budget with the assumption that their placement will be unpaid.

International students who require a Tier 4 visa should check with the Immigration Compliance team prior to commencing any type of paid placement to ensure that they are not contravening their visa requirements.

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, printing and graduation. We do not anticipate any further costs for this programme.

Students may also incur general expenses related to university study, such as for printing, textbooks and other materials. Students who undertake a placement may be responsible for additional costs, such as travel, accommodation, and subsistence costs. For further information, please refer to the additional costs information.

*This price is not set by the University and is liable to increase.

19. 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 National Student Survey (NSS), 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 in all three years of 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/

20. 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: Chemistry (2014) http://www.qaa.ac.uk/docs/qaa/subject-benchmark-statements/sbs-chemistry-14.pdf?sfvrsn=99e1f781_10
c. Keele University Regulations and Guidance for Students and Staff: http://www.keele.ac.uk/regulations
d. BSc Degree Accreditation (2019): https://www.rsc.org/Education/courses-and-careers/accredited-courses/bsc-accreditation.asp

21. Annex - International Year

Combined Honours Chemistry with International Year

Please note: in order to be eligible to take the International Year option your other subject must also offer this option. Please refer to the information published in the course document for your other subject.

International Year Programme
Students registered for this Combined Honours programme may either be admitted for or apply to transfer during their period of study at Level 5 to the Combined Honours programme in both their principal subjects, providing that they meet the progression criteria outlined in this document. Students accepted onto the International Year programme will have an extra year of study at an international partner institution after they have completed Year 2 (Level 5) at Keele. Students who successfully complete both the second year (Level 5) and the International Year will be permitted to progress to Level 6. Students who fail to satisfy the examiners in respect of the International Year will normally revert to the Combined Honours programme without the International Year and progress to Level 6 on that basis. The failure will be recorded on the student's final transcript. Study at Level 4, Level 5 and Level 6 will be as per the main body of this document. The additional detail contained in this annex will pertain solely to students registered for the International Year option.
International Year Programme Aims
In addition to the programme aims specified in the main body of this document, the international year programme of study aims to provide students with: 1. Personal development as a student and a researcher with an appreciation of the international dimension of their subject 2. Experience of a different culture, academically, professionally and socially
Entry Requirements for the International Year

Students may apply to the 4-year programme during Level 5. Admission to the International Year is subject to successful application, interview and references from appropriate staff.

The criteria to be applied are:

- Academic Performance (an average of 55% across all modules in Semester 1 at Level 5 is normally required. Places on the International Year are then conditional on achieving an average mark of 55% across all Level 5 modules. Students with up to 15 credits of re-assessment who meet the 55% requirement may progress to the International Year. Where no Semester 1 marks have been awarded performance in 1st year marks and ongoing 2nd year assessments are taken into account)
- General Aptitude (to be demonstrated by application for study abroad, interview during the 2nd semester of year 2 (Level 5), and by recommendation of the student's Academic Mentor, 1st and 2nd year tutors and programme director)

Students may not register for both an International Year and a Placement Year.

Student Support

Students will be supported whilst on the International Year via the following methods:

- Phone or remote meeting conversations with Study Abroad tutors, in line with recommended Academic Mentoring meeting points.
- Support from the University's Global Education Team

Learning Outcomes

In addition to the learning outcomes specified in the main text of the Programme Specification, students who complete a Keele undergraduate programme with International Year will be able to:

1. Describe, discuss and reflect upon the cultural and international differences and similarities of different learning environments
2. Discuss the benefits and challenges of global citizenship and internationalisation
3. Explain how their perspective on their academic discipline has been influenced by locating it within an international setting.
4. Reflect on the international relevance of Chemistry and related disciplines, and their importance for addressing regional and global environmental, economic and technological challenges.
5. Consider different modes and methods of learning and teaching in the physical sciences from an international standpoint and relate these to your own development as a scientist.

Please note that students on Combined Honours programmes with International Year must meet the subject-specific learning outcomes for BOTH their principal subjects.

These learning outcomes will all be assessed by the submission of a satisfactory individual learning agreement, the successful completion of assessments at the partner institution and the submission of the reflective portfolio element of the international year module.

Course Regulations

Students registered for the International Year are subject to the programme-specific regulations (if any) and the University regulations. In addition, during the International Year, the following regulations will apply:

Students undertaking the International Year must complete 120 credits, which must comprise *at least 40%* in the student's discipline area.

This may impact on your choice of modules to study, for example you will have to choose certain modules to ensure you have the discipline specific credits required.

Students are barred from studying any module with significant overlap to the Level 6 modules to be studied on their return. Significant overlap with Level 5 modules previously studied should also be avoided.

Additional costs for the International Year

Tuition fees for students on the International Year will be charged at 15% of the annual tuition fees for that year of study, as set out in Section 1. The International Year can be included in your Student Finance allocation, to find out more about your personal eligibility see: www.gov.uk

Students will have to bear the costs of travelling to and from their destination university, accommodation, food and personal costs. Depending on the destination they are studying at additional costs may include visas, study permits, residence permits, and compulsory health checks. Students should expect the total costs of studying abroad be greater than if they study in the UK, information is made available from the Global Education Team throughout the process, as costs will vary depending on destination.

Students who meet external eligibility criteria may be eligible for grants as part of this programme. Students studying outside of this programme may be eligible income dependent bursaries at Keele.

Students travel on a comprehensive Keele University insurance plan, for which there are currently no additional charges. Some Governments and/or universities require additional compulsory health coverage plans; costs for this will be advised during the application process.

22. Annex - Work Placement Year

Chemistry with Work Placement Year

Work Placement Year summary

Students registered for this programme may either be admitted for or apply to transfer during their studies to the 'with Work Placement Year' option (NB: for Combined Honours students the rules relating to the work placement year in the subject where the placement is organised are to be followed). Students accepted onto this programme will have an extra year of study (the Work Placement Year) with a relevant placement provider after they have completed Year 2 (Level 5) at Keele.

Students who successfully complete both the second year (Level 5) and the Work Placement Year will be permitted to progress to Level 6. Students who fail to satisfactorily complete the Work Placement Year will normally revert to the 3-year programme and progress to Level 6 on that basis. The failure will be recorded on the student's final transcript.

Study at Level 4, Level 5 and Level 6 will be as per the main body of this document. The additional detail contained in this annex will pertain solely to students registered for the Work Placement Year option.

Work Placement Year Programme Aims

In addition to the programme aims specified in the main body of this document, the Work Placement Year aims to provide students with the opportunity to carry out a long-term work-based learning experience within an industry of their choice between Years 2 and 3 (Levels 5 and 6) of their degree programme. The module will be underpinned by reflective assessment, employer and tutor evaluation and support from the Placements and Projects Manager and Academic Placements Link.

Entry Requirements for the Industrial Placement Year

Admission to the Work Placement Year is subject to successful application, interview and references from appropriate staff. Students have the opportunity to apply directly for the 4-year 'with work placement year' degree programme, or to transfer onto the 4-year programme at the end of Year-1 and in Year-2 at the end of Semester 1. Students who are initially registered for the 4-year degree programme may transfer onto the 3-year degree programme at any point in time, prior to undertaking the year-long industrial placement. Students who fail to pass the work placement year, and those who fail to meet the minimum requirements of the work placement year module, (* or equivalent), will be automatically transferred onto the 3- year degree programme.

* We recommend where possible students undertake a placement of between 9 - 12 months on a full-time basis to maximise academic and personal growth. However, the Faculty of Natural Sciences Work Placement Year mandates a minimum of 24 weeks in duration, ideally on a full-time basis, but no less than 21 hours per week. This enables those undertaking an unpaid placement to work on a part-time basis alongside their placement.

The criteria to be applied are:

- A good University attendance record and be in 'good academic standing'.
- Academic Performance (an average of 50% across all modules in Semester 1 at Level 5 is normally required. Places on the Industrial Placement Year are then conditional on achieving an average mark of 50% across all Level 5 modules. Students with up to 15 credits of re-assessment who meet the 50% requirement may progress to the Industrial Placement Year. Where no Semester 1 marks have been awarded performance in 1st year marks and ongoing 2nd year assessments are taken into account)
- General Aptitude (to be demonstrated by application(s) to relevant placement providers with prior agreement from the Programme Lead, interview during the 2nd semester of year 2 (Level 5), and by recommendation of the student's Academic Mentor, 1st and 2nd year tutors and Programme Lead)
- Students undertaking industrial placements will be expected to complete a Health and Safety checklist prior to commencing their work experience and will be required to satisfy the Health and Safety regulations of the company or organisation at which they are based.
- *(International students only)* Due to visa requirements, it is not possible for international students who require a Tier 4 Visa to apply for direct entry onto the 4-year with Industrial Placement Year degree programme. Students wishing to transfer onto this programme should discuss this with student support, the academic tutor for the industrial placement year, and the Programme Lead. Students should be aware that there are visa implications for this transfer, and it is the student's responsibility to complete any and all necessary processes to be eligible for this programme. There may be additional costs, including applying for a new Visa from outside of the UK for international students associated with a transfer to the industrial placement programme.

Students may not register for both an International Year and a Work Placement Year.

Student Support

Students will be supported whilst on the Work Placement Year via the following methods:

- Regular contact between the student and a named member of staff who will be assigned to the student as their University supervisor. The University supervisor will be in regular contact with the student throughout the year and be on hand to provide advice (pastoral or academic) and liaise with the Placement supervisor on the student's behalf if required.
- Two formal contacts with the student during the placement year: the University supervisor will visit the student in their placement organisation at around 5 weeks after the placement has commenced, and then visit again at the approximate mid way point into the placement. (visits may be in person or virtual).
- Regular supervision sessions will take place with the placement supervisor (or his/her nominee) throughout the duration of the placement.

Learning Outcomes

In addition to the learning outcomes specified in the main text of the Programme Specification, students who complete the 'with Work Placement Year' option will be able to:

1. Identify areas for skills development, in relation to a specific career or sector.
2. Demonstrate skills and attribute development through engagement with a placement.
3. Reflect on the broader personal and professional development throughout the placement experience.
4. Devise an action plan for future careers development.

These learning outcomes will be assessed through the non-credit bearing Work Placement Year module: Professional Placement Year (NAT-30010).

Regulations

Students registered for the 'with Work Placement Year' option are subject to programme-specific regulations (if any) and the University regulations. In addition, during the Work Placement Year, the following regulations will apply:

- Students undertaking the Work Placement Year must successfully complete the zero-credit rated Professional Placement Year module (NAT-30010).
- In order to ensure a high-quality placement experience, each placement provider, alongside the University and Student will sign a tripartite placement learning agreement, setting out expectations from all parties and outlining their responsibilities in relation to the requirements of each organisation.
- Once a student has been accepted by a placement organisation, and the placement is approved the student will be assigned a University representative as their point of contact, and the University will ensure that is has a named contact within the placement organisation.
- Students undertaking work placements will be expected to complete a Health and Safety checklist prior to commencing their work experience and will be required to satisfy the Health and Safety regulations of the company or organisation at which they are based.

Students will be expected to behave professionally in terms of:

1. conforming to the work practices of the organisation.
2. remembering that they are representatives of the University and their actions will reflect on the School and have an impact on that organisation's willingness (or otherwise) to remain engaged with the placement.

Additional costs for the Work Placement Year

Admission to the Work Placement Year is subject to successful application, interview and references from appropriate staff. Students have the opportunity to apply directly for the 4-year 'with work placement year' degree programme, or to transfer onto the 4-year programme at the end of Year-1 and in Year-2 at the end of Semester 1. Students who are initially registered for the 4-year degree programme may transfer onto the 3-year degree programme at any point in time, prior to undertaking the year-long work placement. Students who fail to pass the work placement year, and those who fail to meet the minimum requirements of the work placement year module, (* or equivalent), will be automatically transferred onto the 3-year degree programme.

* We recommend where possible students undertake a placement of between 9 - 12 months on a full-time basis to maximize academic and personal growth. However, the Work Placement Year mandates a minimum of 24 weeks in duration, ideally on a full-time basis, but no less than 21 hours per week. This enables those undertaking an unpaid placement to work on a part-time basis alongside.

To undertake the Faculty of Natural Sciences Work/ Professional Placement Year, it is normally required that students must have achieved an average of 50% across all modules in Semester 1 at Level 5. Places on the Faculty of Natural Sciences Work/Professional Placement Year are then conditional on achieving an average mark of 50% across all Level 5 modules.

Students with up to 15 credits of re-assessment who meet the 50% requirement may progress to the Faculty of Natural Sciences Work Placement Year. Where no Semester 1 marks have been awarded performance in 1st year marks and ongoing 2nd year assessments are taken into account.

**Students who require a visa to study in the UK may be able to add in a work placement depending upon the programme, and may have to undertake a placement of a longer duration to meet UKVI regulations.*

The ability to add a work placement is dependent upon the UK Immigration rules at the time of the request. It may be that for some programmes students will not have the option to request a placement period to be added to their programme before they arrive in the UK and would need to apply for a new visa. There is no guarantee that a placement will be provided and that students who have a visa are subject to a number of restrictions on the type of work, including placements they can undertake.

Students may not register for both an International Year and a Work Placement Year..

23. Annex - Programme-specific regulations

Programme Regulations: Chemistry (Combined Honours)

Final Award and Award Titles	BSc (Hons) Chemistry BSc (Hons) Chemistry with International Year BSc (Hons) Chemistry with Work Placement Year
Intermediate Award(s)	Diploma in Higher Education Certificate in Higher Education
Last modified	September 2025
Programme Specification	https://www.keele.ac.uk/qa/programmespecifications

The University's Academic Regulations which can be found on the Keele University website (https://www.keele.ac.uk/regulations/)[1] apply to and regulate the programme, other than in instances where the specific programme regulations listed below over-ride them. These programme regulations list:

- *Exemptions* which are characterised by the omission of the relevant regulation.
- *Variations* which are characterised by the replacement of part of the regulation with alternative wording.
- *Additional Requirements* which set out what additional rules that apply to students in relation to this programme.

The following **exemptions, variations** and **additional requirements** to the University regulations have been checked by Academic Services and have been approved by the Faculty Education Committee.

A) EXEMPTIONS

The clause(s) listed below describe where an exemption from the University's Academic Regulations exists:

For the whole duration of their studies, students on this Programme are exempt from the following regulations:

- **No exemptions apply.**

B) VARIATIONS

The clause(s) listed below describe where a variation from the University's Academic Regulations exists:

Variation 1: Self-Certification of Short Term Absence

To cover short term absences of up to 5-working days from compulsory sessions, students are permitted to submit three self-certifications (notification of short-term absence) per semester. Any such notifications must be made within 5-working days of the absence. Further absences beyond this may require evidence.

Variation 2: Coursework Assessment

Failure to engage appropriately with a module's coursework assessment items without good cause (that is, by failing to submit more than 50% of coursework items) may result in reassessment being denied.

Variation 3: Level 4 to Level 5 Progression

In order to progress from level 4 to level 5, students must pass all compulsory chemistry modules and meet the required threshold qualifying marks on any assessment(s) in these modules. Students with outstanding reassessment attempts on assessments with threshold qualifying marks may not progress before these assessments have been completed. At the discretion of the Chemistry Board of Examiners, this may be discounted.

Variation 4: International Year and Industrial Placement Year Eligibility

In order to be eligible to pursue an international year or industrial placement year between level 5 and level 6,

students must have successfully passed all level 4 and have an overall level 5 module average of > 55%, as well as demonstrated competency in relevant practical and professional skills.

Variation 5: Condonement

The CHE-30066 (Chemistry/Medicinal Chemistry Research Project) and CHE-30068 (Chemistry/Medicinal Chemistry Dissertation) modules must be passed at 40% and are not eligible for condonement due to accreditation requirements. All other modules are eligible for condonement as defined in Regulation D5.

C) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

The programme requirements listed below are in addition to the University's Academic Regulations:

Additional requirement 1: Laboratory Classes

1. Laboratory classes are compulsory and are an essential part in fulfilling the intended learning outcomes of modules of which they are part, and a requirement of Royal Society of Chemistry accreditation. Failure to attend a significant number (> 50%) of laboratory classes per semester without good cause will result in failure of the relevant modules with no reassessment being offered.
2. Any student failing to follow the health and safety guidelines in the undergraduate laboratory will be asked to leave. This may include inappropriate dress, refusal to follow reasonable requests of staff, or attending under the influence of alcohol or other substances. The student will not be permitted to make up the missed session.
3. There is no opportunity to make up missed laboratory sessions due to timetable constraints and so the following concessions will be made available to the student:

- the student may be given opportunity to submit assessed work based on an alternative laboratory session, in agreement with the module leader and year tutor;
- with the approval of the Chemistry Board of Examiners, a small element of the laboratory assessment (up to 33%) may be disregarded with the final mark for the assessment being recalculated from the remaining elements.

Additional requirement 2: Other Compulsory Classes

Various compulsory classes (including workshops, assessment introductions, team-based learning sessions, tutorials, class tests and feedback sessions), at which attendance is compulsory, form an essential part of the chemistry/medicinal chemistry teaching programme. Failure to attend these sessions will result in warnings being issued in line with School of Chemical and Physical Sciences policy. In addition, failure to attend a significant number (>50%) of these sessions without good cause may result in reassessment being denied.

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[1] References to University Regulations in this document apply to the content of the University's Regulatory Framework as set out on the University website here: https://www.keele.ac.uk/regulations/

Version History

This document

Date Approved: 13 April 2026

Previous documents

Version No	Year	Owner	Date Approved	Summary of and rationale for changes
1	2025/26	TESS PHILLIPS	31 March 2025	
1	2024/25	TESS PHILLIPS	14 June 2024	Variation added to state that condonement is not possible on the CHE-30050 (Chemistry/Medicinal Chemistry Research Project) and CHE-30051 (Chemistry/Medicinal Chemistry Dissertation) modules.
1	2023/24	MATTHEW O'BRIEN	18 January 2023	
1	2022/23	MIKE EDWARDS	01 February 2022	
1	2021/22	LAURA HANCOCK	23 March 2021	
1	2020/21	MIKE EDWARDS	12 December 2019	
1	2019/20	MIKE EDWARDS	12 December 2019	