



Ballymena Academy Chemistry Department

Year 10 Chemistry - Guidelines for Parents



General Advice

In class pupils should bring

- ✓ A ring binder (for worksheets, notes and tests)
- ✓ Pencil case with pen, pencil, rubber, ruler and highlighter. Colouring pencils are useful.
- ✓ Exercise book – for homework, revision exercises, etc

Homework

- ✓ Details written in Learning Organiser for the day it is due.
- ✓ Some work will be in the exercise book (above); other tasks on file paper
- ✓ Title the homework and include the date
- ✓ Write in blue or black ink; draw graphs and diagrams in pencil.
- ✓ You should sign your child's written homework each night.



Organisation

- ✓ It is important to continue to be organised for class each day in Year 10 – your child will have chemistry once a week (for 2 periods). Keep a copy of your child's timetable posted at home for easy reference.
- ✓ Be aware of the 'Year 10 Chemistry Big Picture' – your child will have a copy in their file – also see the school VLE.

Revision

- ✓ For topic tests and examinations (see 'Year 10 Big Picture') your child should be an active learner – some ideas:
 - labelling blank diagrams,
 - reading and then listing the main points,
 - mapping out the main aspects of a topic
 - answering questions from past papers
 - using a revision guide
 - writing definitions, key facts or equations on post-it notes and sticking them round the room
 - getting a parent to ask them questions from their notes
- ✓ You might consider buying a chemistry CD ROM as well as titles to encourage reading like the '*Horrible Science*' series, e.g. *Chemical Chaos*..



Websites



The World Wide Web is a fantastic place for learning, but for every perfect page there are a hundred dodgy ones. If you don't have Internet access at home, try the local library – many offer free access. Watch out for the temptation to just copy material from a website – make sure your child writes their homework in their own words. (Adapted from '*At home with Science*' - Press /click - www.planet-science.com)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zng4d2p>

Tests, quizzes and games on key stage 3 chemistry, biology and physics.

<http://www.rsc.org/careers/future/parents>

Information for parents to support their children thinking about a future in chemistry from the Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC).

<http://www.qub.ac.uk/schools/SchoolofChemistryandChemicalEngineering/>

Find out about Chemistry courses at Queen's University, Belfast



Activities/ideas you could try based on the Year 10 Chemistry topics (also see 'The Big Picture')

➤ 1. Metals and Reactivity

- Which metal are used in your home? Are they reacting or rusting? Where can you find copper, iron, silver?
- Research new metallic materials using the science museum website or visit the Science Museum the next time you and your family are in London! (Click on picture →)



➤ 2. Periodic Table

- See how much parents remember about the symbols of the chemical elements – have a quiz!
- If you ever travel to Belgium visit the Atomium in Brussels (Click →)



➤ 3. Chemistry and Careers

- Where might you get careers help or ideas - a member of your family working in a certain profession/area; your regular newspaper?
- Have a look at how Parents can get involved in supporting their children with careers and education (Click →)



➤ 4. Atomic Structure

- What products in the supermarket use **nanotechnology** – sunscreen? 'Silverhealing plasters'? – have a look at the labels
- Build atoms with 'MicroBoy' on the CERN website (Click →)



➤ 5. Chemical World

- Find out about a local quarry by researching on the internet – what's the main resource there? What's it used for? Are there any environmental concerns?
- Have you questions about salt and health? Try this NHS link →

