

KS5 Chemistry – Reading list

Books

- **Molecules at an exhibition: John Emsley**

The book imagines walking through a museum of chemistry exhibits. Each gallery has a different set of elements or molecules with a short (2-3 page) summary of why they are important and where they are used / found. An excellent book to dip into when you have a little free time.

- **Periodic Tales: The Curious lives of Elements: Hugh Aldersey-Williams**

This book addresses the discovery and uses of the elements. Very interesting.

- **The Periodic Table: Primo Levi**

This is a biography of the authors life and how it has been impacted by Chemistry. Each chapter has the name of an element that was significant at that stage of his life. Primo Levi was awarded the Nobel prize for Literature for this book – a fascinating and gripping book.

- **What is chemistry?: Peter Atkins**

“Chemistry may conjure up images of lab benches with test tubes and flasks, Bunsen burners, strange smells, and bubbling mixtures. But what is chemistry? Why does it matter? What do chemists do?

Peter Atkins distils the central concepts and approaches of chemistry into lucid prose, and shows how chemistry has transformed our world.”

Magazines

- **Chemistry Review**

There is an opportunity early in year 12 to pay for a one or two-year subscription to the magazine. We have a collection of past issues which you can make use of during your period 6 lessons.

Websites

- **Education in Chemistry, The Mole**

The student magazine from the Royal Society of Chemistry, it is no longer produced, but past articles are available online.

<https://eic.rsc.org/section/the-mole>

- **ChemMatters online**

The student magazine from the American Chemical Society. Some articles from each issue are free to access.

<https://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/education/resources/highschool/chemmatters.html>

- **Compound Interest**

The website has beautiful infographics, some of which are specifically related to A-level chemistry and many of which show the relevance of Chemistry to everyday life. A good source of information and data.

<http://www.compoundchem.com/>

Podcasts

- **Chemistry World**

These podcasts from the Royal Society of Chemistry include three series: a monthly podcast, a book club podcast and a podcast about particularly notable elements and compounds. Well worth a listen.

<https://www.chemistryworld.com/podcasts>

If you find any useful books, magazines, websites or podcasts then please let us know and we will add them to the list.