

2 The specification overview

2a. OCR's GCSE (9–1) in Chemistry A (Gateway Science) (J248)

Learners are entered for either Foundation tier (Paper 1 and Paper 2) or Higher tier (Paper 3 and Paper 4).

Content Overview	Assessment Overview		
Foundation tier, grades 5 to 1			
<p>Content is split into six teaching topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topic C1: Particles • Topic C2: Elements, compounds and mixtures • Topic C3: Chemical reactions • Topic C4: Predicting and identifying reactions and products • Topic C5: Monitoring and controlling chemical reactions • Topic C6: Global challenges <p>Paper 1 assesses content from Topics C1 – C3. Paper 2 assesses content from Topics C4 – C6, with assumed knowledge of Topics C1 – C3.</p>	<p>Paper 1</p> <p>J248/01</p> <p>90 marks</p> <p>1 hour 45 minutes written paper</p>	50% of total GCSE	
	<p>Paper 2</p> <p>J248/02</p> <p>90 marks</p> <p>1 hour 45 minutes written paper</p>		50% of total GCSE
	Higher tier, grades 9 to 4		
	<p>Content is split into six teaching topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topic C1: Particles • Topic C2: Elements, compounds and mixtures • Topic C3: Chemical reactions • Topic C4: Predicting and identifying reactions and products • Topic C5: Monitoring and controlling chemical reactions • Topic C6: Global challenges <p>Paper 3 assesses content from Topics C1 – C3. Paper 4 assesses content from Topics C4 – C6, with assumed knowledge of Topics C1 – C3.</p>	<p>Paper 3</p> <p>J248/03</p> <p>90 marks</p> <p>1 hour 45 minutes written paper</p>	50% of total GCSE
<p>Paper 4</p> <p>J248/04</p> <p>90 marks</p> <p>1 hour 45 minutes written paper</p>		50% of total GCSE	

J248/02 and J248/04 include synoptic assessment.