

Circular S/IF/13/15

February 2015

To: The Principals of Post-primary Schools and Directors of Further and Higher Education
for all centres who take CCEA GCE Chemistry

For circulation to: Head of the Chemistry Department

GCE Chemistry – Amendments to specification

Update to the online version of the GCE Chemistry specification

<http://www.ccea.org.uk/chemistry/>

The structure and format of the AS 3 practical assessment was changed last year to enhance the security and reliability procedures. These changes were to be phased in for this cohort of candidates so it now follows that the same changes are required for the A2 3 practical assessment. Changes have been made to pages 6 and 33 to show that the A2 3 practical exam has been split into two booklets, the revised mark breakdown in each booklet, the time required to complete each booklet and that both booklets will now be externally assessed. The total time and marks haven't changed.

In addition, teacher feedback from the first cohort of candidates who sat the revised structure of the AS 3 practical assessment suggested that the time allocated to both booklets wasn't the best time split as candidates were under pressure to complete Practical Booklet A in 1 hour and they had finished the 1 hour 30 minute Practical Booklet B early. Hence, the time allocation should change to 1 hour 15 minutes for both Practical Booklets A and B. This follows the timing of the A2 3 practical assessments and doesn't change the overall time allocation. Changes have been made to page 5 of the specification to reflect this information.

If you have any queries regarding the content of this circular please contact:

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