

These programme regulations should be read in conjunction with the University's [core regulations for undergraduate programmes](#), and the [marking and classification conventions for undergraduate programmes](#).

*This document contains separate regulations based on programme start date (from October 2026 and in October 2025 or earlier).*

*Please ensure that you review the correct programme regulations for your start date.*

## **MSci Biology and Chemistry (CF12)**

## **MSci Biology and Chemistry with Placement (CF16)**

*(for candidates admitted from October 2026)*

1. This programme is available at Durham City, in a full-time mode of study.
2. All module selections must be timetable compatible and approved by the Director of Natural Sciences or by their nominee to ensure a credible pathway through to 120 credits of Year 4 modules.

### **Level 1 (Certificate)**

3. Candidates shall study and be assessed in the following modules:

		<b>Credit value</b>
Genetics *	<a href="#">BIOL1171</a>	20
Molecules and Cells *	<a href="#">BIOL1281</a>	20
Foundations of Chemistry: Atoms, Bonding & Energetics *	<a href="#">CHEM1032</a>	40
Chemical Systems & Change: Structure & Dynamics *	<a href="#">CHEM1131</a>	20

4. **Either** Candidates shall study and be assessed in the following module:

		<b>Credit value</b>
Mathematical Methods for Chemists *	<a href="#">CHEM1121</a>	20

**Or** Candidates shall study and be assessed in the following module:

		<b>Credit value</b>
Single Mathematics A *	<a href="#">MATH1561</a>	20

### **Level 2 (Diploma)**

5. Candidates shall study and be assessed in:

		<b>Credit value</b>
Molecular Biology *	<a href="#">BIOL2441</a>	20
Metabolism *	<a href="#">BIOL2491</a>	20
Cell Signalling *	<a href="#">BIOL2501</a>	20
Principles of Organic Chemistry: Aromaticity & Synthetic strategy *	CHEM****	20
Practical Synthetic Chemistry – Level 2 *	CHEM****	20
Chemical Principles of Biological Systems	CHEM****	20

### **Level 3 (Degree)**

6. Candidates shall study and be assessed in the following modules:

		<b>Credit value</b>
Cellular Biochemistry *	<a href="#">BIOL3601</a>	20
Stress and Response to the Environment *	<a href="#">BIOL3491</a>	20
Contemporary Organic Chemistry: Pericyclic & stereoselectivity	CHEM****	20
Advanced Organic Chemistry *	CHEM****	20
Practical Synthetic Chemistry – Level 3*	CHEM****	20

### Placement – Year 3 or Year 4

7. Candidates admitted to the MSci Biology and Chemistry (CF12) can apply to transfer to the MSci Biology and Chemistry with Placement (CF16). Students undertaking the MSci Biology and Chemistry with Placement (CF16) will undertake an approved placement chosen in consultation with the Director of Natural Sciences or their nominee and the host partner.
8. Candidates wishing to transfer to the MSci Biology and Chemistry with Placement (CF16) as their third year must:
  - a. Have successfully completed Level 1 of the MSci Biology and Chemistry (CF12) and progressed to Level 2 of the Honours or BSc programme; and
  - b. Secure a Placement Year opportunity or opportunities comprising at least 40 weeks of professional-level work experience, agreed with the Director of Natural Sciences or their nominee; and
  - c. Successfully complete Level 2 to be eligible to progress to Level 3 of the MSci Biology and Chemistry (CF12) Honours programme; and
  - d. register for the module “Natural Sciences Placement MSCI (NSCI 3966)”
9. Students who the Board of Examiners for Natural Sciences deem to have made satisfactory progress on the placement will continue to Level 3 of the MSci Biology and Chemistry with Placement (CF16). Students who have not made satisfactory progress on the placement will not be permitted to continue on the MSci Biology and Chemistry with Placement (CF16) programme but must instead proceed to Level 3 of the MSci Biology and Chemistry (CF12) programme.
10. Candidates wishing to transfer to the MSci Biology and Chemistry with Placement (CF16) as their fourth year must:
  - a. Have successfully completed Level 2 of the MSci Biology and Chemistry (CF12) and progressed to Level 3 of the Honours programme; and
  - b. Secure a Placement Year opportunity or opportunities comprising at least 40 weeks of professional-level work experience, agreed with the Director of Natural Sciences or their nominee; and
  - c. Successfully complete Level 3 of the MSci Biology and Chemistry (CF12) programme to be eligible to progress to Level 4 of the MSci Biology and Chemistry (CF12) Honours programme; and
  - d. register for the module “Natural Sciences Placement MSCI (NSCI 3966)”
11. Students who the Board of Examiners deem to have made satisfactory progress on the placement will continue to Level 4 of the MSci Biology and Chemistry with Placement (CF16). Students who have not made satisfactory progress on the placement will not be permitted to continue on the MSci Biology and Chemistry with Placement (CF16) programme but must instead proceed to Level 4 of the MSci Biology and Chemistry (CF12) programme.

### Level 4 (Degree)

12. Candidates shall study and be assessed in the following modules:

		<b>Credit value</b>
Workshop	<a href="#">BIOL4111</a>	20
Biochemistry Research Project	<a href="#">BIOL4022</a>	40
Frontiers in Molecular Assembly	<a href="#">CHEM4311</a>	20
Bioactive Chemistry Research Project	<a href="#">CHEM4272</a>	40

### Assessment, progression and award

13. Modules marked with the \* symbol must be passed at no less than 40% in order to progress to the next level of study. Students who have not passed will not be permitted to continue on the MSci in Biology and Chemistry (CF12) programme, but must instead proceed to the next level of the BSc Natural Sciences (CFG0) programme in accordance with the Core Regulations.
14. Candidates whose achievement at the end of Level 3 does not qualify them to proceed to Level 4 will be awarded a BSc in Biology and Chemistry in accordance with the Core Regulations.
15. Candidates whose achievement at the end of Level 4 does not qualify them to be awarded the MSci degree will be awarded a BSc in Biology and Chemistry in accordance with the Core Regulations.

**Professional accreditation**

16. MSci Biology and Chemistry: This programme is accredited by the Royal Society of Chemistry for candidates entering Level 1 up to and including October 2030 as satisfying the academic requirements for the award of Chartered Chemist (CChem) for holders of first or second class honours degrees.

These programme regulations should be read in conjunction with the University's [core regulations for undergraduate programmes](#)

## **MSci Biology and Chemistry (CF12)**

## **MSci Biology and Chemistry with Placement (CF16)**

*(for candidates admitted in October 2025 or earlier)*

1. This programme is available at Durham City, in a full-time mode of study.
2. All module selections must be timetable compatible and approved by the Director of Natural Sciences or by their nominee to ensure a credible pathway through to 120 credits of Year 4 modules.

### **Level 1 (Certificate)**

3. Candidates shall study and be assessed in the following modules:

		<b>Credit value</b>
Genetics *	<a href="#">BIOL1171</a>	20
Molecules and Cells *	<a href="#">BIOL1281</a>	20
Core Chemistry 1 #	<a href="#">CHEM1078</a>	30
Practical Chemistry 1A *	<a href="#">CHEM1087</a>	10

4. **Either** Candidates shall study and be assessed in the following modules:

		<b>Credit value</b>
Linear Algebra I *	<a href="#">MATH1071</a>	20
Calculus I *	<a href="#">MATH1061</a>	20

**Or** Candidates shall study and be assessed in the following modules:

		<b>Credit value</b>
Single Mathematics A *	<a href="#">MATH1561</a>	20
Single Mathematics B *	<a href="#">MATH1571</a>	20

**Or** Candidates shall study and be assessed in the following modules:

<b>List A:</b>		<b>Credit value</b>
Mathematical And Experimental Tools Required in Chemistry *	<a href="#">CHEM1111</a>	20
20 credits of module(s) from those subjects listed in Paragraph 2 of the BSc Natural Sciences programme (CFG0) regulations		20

**Or** Candidates wishing to study for an accredited degree must study and be assessed in the following modules:

		<b>Credit value</b>
Mathematical And Experimental Tools Required in Chemistry	<a href="#">CHEM1111</a>	20
Introduction To Materials Chemistry	<a href="#">CHEM1127</a>	10
Practical Chemistry 1B	<a href="#">CHEM1107</a>	10

### **Level 2 (Diploma)**

5. Candidates shall study and be assessed in:

		<b>Credit value</b>
Molecular Biology *	<a href="#">BIOL2441</a>	20
Metabolism *	<a href="#">BIOL2491</a>	20
Cell Signalling *	<a href="#">BIOL2501</a>	20
Core Chemistry 2 #	<a href="#">CHEM2012</a>	40
Structure and Reactivity in Organic Chemistry *	<a href="#">CHEM2087</a>	10
Practical Chemistry 2 – Synthetic *	<a href="#">CHEM2147</a>	10

### Level 3 (Degree)

6. Candidates shall study and be assessed in the following modules:

		<b>Credit value</b>
Biochemistry and Biotechnology *	<a href="#">BIOL3601</a>	20
Stress and Response to the Environment *	<a href="#">BIOL3491</a>	20
Bioactive Chemistry 3 *	<a href="#">CHEM3211</a>	20
Advanced Biological Chemistry *	<a href="#">CHEM3421</a>	20
Advanced Organic Chemistry *	<a href="#">CHEM3117</a>	10
Practical Chemistry 3 – Synthetic *	<a href="#">CHEM3447</a>	10
20 credits of available modules from Level 3 (including the Biosciences (BIOL) list and Science Enterprise)	<a href="#">NSCI3001</a>	20

### Placement – Year 3 or Year 4

7. Candidates admitted to the MSci Biology and Chemistry (CF12) can apply to transfer to the MSci Biology and Chemistry with Placement (CF16). Students undertaking the MSci Biology and Chemistry with Placement (CF16) will undertake an approved placement chosen in consultation with the Director of Natural Sciences or their nominee and the host partner.
8. Candidates wishing to transfer to the MSci Biology and Chemistry with Placement (CF16) as their third year must:
- Have successfully completed Level 1 of the MSci Biology and Chemistry (CF12) and progressed to Level 2 of the Honours or BSc programme; and
  - During the first term of Level 2 study, the student must discuss their intention to apply with the Director of Natural Sciences or their nominee in order to be admitted to the MSci Biology and Chemistry with Placement (CF16) and receive approval by the Director of Natural Sciences or their nominee; and
  - Secure a Placement Year opportunity or opportunities comprising at least 40 weeks of professional-level work experience, agreed with the Director of Natural Sciences or their nominee; and
  - Successfully complete Level 2 to be eligible to progress to Level 3 of the MSci Biology and Chemistry (CF12) Honours programme.
9. Students who the Board of Examiners for Natural Sciences deem to have made satisfactory progress on the placement will continue to Level 3 of the MSci Biology and Chemistry with Placement (CF16). Students who have not made satisfactory progress on the placement will not be permitted to continue on the MSci Biology and Chemistry with Placement (CF16) programme, but must instead proceed to Level 3 of the MSci Biology and Chemistry (CF12) programme.
10. Candidates wishing to transfer to the MSci Biology and Chemistry with Placement (CF16) as their fourth year must:
- Have successfully completed Level 2 of the MSci Biology and Chemistry (CF12) and progressed to Level 3 of the Honours programme; and
  - During the first term of Level 3 study, the student must discuss their intention to apply with the Director of Natural Sciences or their nominee in order to be admitted to the MSci Biology and Chemistry with Placement (CF16) and receive approval by the Director of Natural Sciences or their nominee; and
  - Secure a Placement Year opportunity or opportunities comprising at least 40 weeks of professional-level work experience, agreed with the Director of Natural Sciences or their nominee; and
  - Successfully complete Level 3 of the MSci Biology and Chemistry (CF12) programme to be eligible to progress to Level 4 of the MSci Biology and Chemistry (CF12) Honours programme.
  - register for the module "Natural Sciences Placement MSCI (NSCI 3996)"
11. Students who the Board of Examiners deem to have made satisfactory progress on the placement will continue to Level 4 of the MSci Biology and Chemistry with Placement (CF16). Students who have not made satisfactory progress on the placement will not be permitted to continue on the MSci Biology and Chemistry with Placement (CF16) programme, but must instead proceed to Level 4 of the MSci Biology and Chemistry (CF12) programme.

### Level 4 (Degree)

12. Candidates shall study and be assessed in the following modules:

		<b>Credit value</b>
Workshop	<a href="#">BIOL4111</a>	20

Biochemistry Research Project	<a href="#">BIOL4022</a>	40
Frontiers in Molecular Assembly	<a href="#">CHEM4311</a>	20
Bioactive Chemistry Research Project	<a href="#">CHEM4272</a>	40

### **Assessment, progression and award**

13. Modules marked with the # symbol must be passed at no less than 40% in order to progress to the next level of study.
14. Modules marked with the \* symbol must be passed at no less than 40% in order to progress to the next level of study. Students who have not passed will not be permitted to continue on the MSci in Biology and Chemistry (CF12) programme, but must instead proceed to the next level of the BSc Natural Sciences (CFG0) programme in accordance with the Core Regulations.
15. Candidates whose achievement at the end of Level 3 does not qualify them to proceed to Level 4 will be awarded a BSc in Biology and Chemistry in accordance with the Core Regulations.
16. Candidates whose achievement at the end of Level 4 does not qualify them to be awarded the MSci degree will be awarded a BSc in Biology and Chemistry in accordance with the Core Regulations.
17. This programme is not available with an additional year to study abroad at a partner institution; however, this does not exclude the opportunity for an individual student to seek a concession to undertake a replacement year at an overseas institution where an appropriate programme of study can be identified and secured by that student in liaison with the University's International Office and subject to the approval of the Director of Natural Sciences.

### **Professional accreditation**

18. MSci Biology and Chemistry: This programme is accredited by the Royal Society of Chemistry for candidates entering Level 1 up to and including October 2030 as satisfying the academic requirements for the award of Chartered Chemist (CChem) for holders of first or second class honours degrees.