## Representation from the Royal Society of Chemistry

## March 2022

## About Us

With around 45,000 members in more than 100 countries and a knowledge business that spans the globe, the Royal Society of Chemistry is the UK's professional body for chemical scientists, supporting and representing our members and bringing together chemical scientists from all over the world. Our members include those working in large multinational companies and small to medium enterprises, researchers and students in universities, teachers, and regulators.

- o those from different ethnic minority backgrounds; and
- o those who have a special educational need or disability.
- How careers and skills guidance could be better embedded in the curriculum across primary, secondary, further, higher and adult education, to ensure all learners are properly prepared for the world of work

## Our Response

- 1. With about 50,000 members in 120 countries and a knowledge business that spans the globe, the Royal Society of Chemistry is the UK's professional body for chemical scientists, supporting and representing our members in large multinational companies and small to medium enterprises, universities, schools, government, and regulatory agencies. The contribution (direct, indirect and induced) of chemistry-using professionals to UK GDP was estimated to be £87 billion in 2019<sup>i</sup>. In a world where global challenges and advances in technology bring both uncertainty and new possibilities, the chemical sciences have a critical role to play. A successful chemistry education will ensure we have a sustainable supply of people with the curiosity, knowledge, and skills to address these global challenges.
- 2. UCAS figures

<sup>i</sup> Chemistry's Contribution: Workforce trends and economic impact, Royal Society of Chemistry <u>https://www.rsc.org/new-perspectives/talent/chemistrys-contribution-workforce-trends-and-economic-impact/</u>

<sup>II</sup> UCAS undergraduate sector-level end of cycle data resources 2021, <u>https://www.ucas.com/data-and-analysis/undergraduate-sector-level-end-cycle-data-resources-2021</u> gives the number of Main scheme applications for JACS3 of "F1 – Chemistry" to be 31,105 in 2015 and 25,420 in 2018. <sup>III</sup> Provisional entries for GCSE, AS and A level: summer 2021 series, Ofgual 2021

https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/provisional-entries-for-gcse-as-and-a-level-summer-2021-exam-series/provisionalentries-for-gcse-as-and-a-level-summer-2021-exam-series#as-and-a-level-entries

<sup>iv</sup> Moote & Archer, 2019, Contextualising Chemistry Choices: Analysis of A level Chemistry students' aspirations, attitudes and choices in the ASPIRES 2 Year 13 dataset: Unpublished report for the Royal Society of Chemistry. London, UCL

<sup>v</sup> Open letter from industry leaders, Royal Society of Chemistry <u>https://www.rsc.org/news-events/articles/2019/sep/open-letter-</u> <u>from-industry-leaders/</u>

<sup>vi</sup> Green Shoots: a sustainable chemistry curriculum for a sustainable planet, Royal Society of Chemistry <u>https://www.rsc.org/globalassets/22-new-perspectives/sustainability/sustainability-curriculum/green-shoots-a-sustainable-</u> chemistry-curriculum-for-a-sustainable-planet.pdf

vii Science Horizons: leading-edge science for sustainable prosperity over the next 10-15 years, Royal Society of Chemistry <u>https://www.rsc.org/globalassets/04-campaigning-outreach/campaigning/science-horizons/science-horizons-report.pdf</u>
viii Data from Science Industries Partnership.

<sup>ix</sup> The benefits of Gatsby Benchmark achievement for post-16 destinations, The Careers & Enterprise Company <u>https://www.careersandenterprise.co.uk/media/zt0bgoa0/1488\_destinations\_report\_v4.pdf</u>