

# JAMES SAMPLE

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## Education

### 2015 - 2020: MChem Chemistry, University of Aberdeen (2:1 anticipated)

This course is accredited by the Royal Society of Chemistry. Key modules include: Solid State and Materials Chemistry, Molecular Structure and Reactivity, Professional Skills in Chemistry and Science and Society.

- **January – May 2019: Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Cientificas (CSIC), Madrid**  
Final semester of my degree undertaken in Spain's National Research Council, completing a project on "The use of non-covalent interactions to synthesise interlocked molecules that can act as molecular motors."
- **2015-2016: Study Abroad/International Exchange - Hong Kong University of Science and Technology**  
Spent second year in Hong Kong, and was awarded commendation on the Dean's List for academic excellence. Studied courses in organic and inorganic chemistry, analytical chemistry and physical chemistry, with an emphasis on practical laboratory skills.

### 2009-2015: Mearns Castle High School, Newton Mearns, Glasgow

- SQA Advanced Higher: Chemistry (A), Biology (B)
- SQA Highers: Biology (A), Chemistry (A), Maths (A), English (B), Geography (B), Spanish (B).
- SQA Int 2: English (A), Maths (A), Chemistry (A). Five further Standard Grades awarded at credit level.

## Relevant Laboratory Experience

### 2015 – Present: University of Aberdeen, Chemistry Laboratory Experience

- Spend a minimum of 12 hours/week within the University's chemistry laboratories in years 4 and 5.
- Have developed a wide range of chemistry skills, using laboratory instruments including IR spectrometers, NMR spectrometers, atomic-force microscopes, UV-Vis spectrophotometers and gas chromatography equipment.
- I have analysed samples using powder X-ray diffraction apparatus, Scanning Electron Microscopes and X-ray Photoelectron Spectroscopy.

### Summer 2019: Scotgrad Summer Placement – Lab Assistant, Devro, Glasgow

- Completed an 8 week summer placement with Devro, who supply collagen casings for the food industry, used in sausage and other meat products.
- I developed skills using traditional wet chemistry techniques, including High Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC) and Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy (FTIR).

## Other Work Experience

### September 2019: Techfest, Aberdeen - Demonstrator

- I demonstrated to groups of up to twenty primary-aged children in the "Chemical Wizardry" series explaining physical and chemical characteristics of substances.
- I attended public lectures on different subjects, including Forensic Pathology and Poisons.

### October 2017 – Present: Tesco Esso Express, Aberdeen - Customer Assistant

- Currently work part-time alongside studies within a busy convenience supermarket and fuel station.
- Duties include liaising with managers, suppliers and customers, monitoring fuel levels within the pumps, and overseeing deliveries of Tesco Direct products for collection, while working shifts either starting before 6 am or finishing after midnight.

## Skills

### IT:

- Have developed excellent IT skills, using Microsoft Office (Word, Excel) for reports and recording lab data, and also PowerPoint for delivering presentations.
- I am a confident user of *Atoms*, and have used *ChemDraw* in my group and individual projects.

### Communication:

- University: I prepare written reports and regularly deliver oral presentations.
- Tesco: have developed excellent customer skills, resolving concerns and acting professionally.
- Techfest: learned to communicate science effectively to children and accompanying adults.

### Teamwork:

- This is essential within laboratory practice, which often involved team projects, particularly at Devro where results were communicated with their labs across the globe, and in Hong Kong where group lab work was formally assessed.
- Developed good team-working skills while working in retail, flexibly working alongside other student colleagues to enable shift changes (where appropriate).

### Research:

- In both Aberdeen and Hong Kong have carried out research for assignments using library based research and peer reviewed journals.
- Have undertaken two original research projects – one in a group (which aided my team-working skills), and one as an individual. My individual research concentrated on the synthesis of new liquid crystals.

### Analytical:

- Enjoy problem solving, both in the lab when faced with unexpected data, or through itinerary planning for travelling, and decoding puzzles in my spare time.

### Driving Licence:

- Hold full UK driving licence, with no penalties.

## Professional Membership

Student member of the Royal Society of Chemistry.

## Interests

**Winter sports:** I enjoy skiing and snowboarding, in Scotland and the Alps. I enjoyed a trip in 2017 to Val Thorens – for the sport and après-ski - with the Student Association's ABDN Snow society.

**Puzzles:** I particularly enjoy problem solving puzzles and quizzes, and enjoy undertaking "Breakout" style activities with friends, where clues must be solved within a specified amount of time.

**Travel:** I enjoy the opportunities for travel both with groups of friends in the UK and Europe, and also undertake solo trips. While in Hong Kong, I travelled independently to Macau and Taiwan.

## References

- Available on request