



### Cambridge Chemistry Challenge Lower 6th

Thank you for participating in the 2018 Cambridge Chemistry Challenge for Lower Sixth (Year 12). Despite the inconvenience of GDPR, this year almost 8000 students participated in the challenge from around 540 schools. It was good to see many new schools entering and winning certificates. It was also pleasing to hear that many schools now regard our competition as an integral part of the school calendar.

The feedback from schools was once again positive, with teachers saying they felt the paper accessible but challenging. The level of difficulty was comparable with the paper from last year resulting in similar grade boundaries. The highest scoring papers were moderated by the committee, with quite a number moving both up and down.

The paper, the mark-scheme, and the examiners' comments will appear on the website soon. We hope you feel that taking part in this competition was a worthwhile experience and we would welcome any additional feedback: please email [feedback@C3L6.com](mailto:feedback@C3L6.com).

For your interest a summary of the results is included over the page.

#### Supporters of C3L6



**St Catharine's College  
Cambridge**



**UNIVERSITY of CAMBRIDGE  
Department of Chemistry**



**Corpus Christi College  
Cambridge**

#### The C3L6 committee

Claire Badger

Tim Hersey

Dean Holt

Ben Pilgrim

Kathryn Scott

Andrew Worrall

Peter Wothers

## Results Summary

This year 547 schools submitted at least one mark and it is pleasing to see that at least one student from the majority of these schools received a certificate. The Copper certificate, reflecting a reasonable grasp of A-level material and the ability to apply this knowledge to novel problems, was awarded to 36 % of entrants. We felt a mark of 22 or above represented a very good achievement on this paper and showed the students were able to think their way successfully through unfamiliar material. Nearly a quarter of the candidates were of this standard and achieved at least a Silver Award. A mark over 30/65 was very impressive indeed and worthy of a Gold Award or higher; these students demonstrated their ability to tackle a range of different chemical topics under time pressure.

The Roentgenium Award was given to the top 0.7% of students. These students have been invited to attend a residential course at the University of Cambridge. The highest mark achieved this year was an outstanding 62/65. We were delighted to see three 'Year 11 or below' students achieve the Roentgenium award. It was very pleasing to see 39 schools from *all* sectors of secondary education represented in this group. Once again, it is clear that talented and ambitious students can be found everywhere.

We continue to encourage teachers to submit all marks scored by their students as a certificate at any level represents a significant achievement; any fears that this could ever count against a student in terms of university applications are entirely unfounded.

As the school details entered by the teachers automatically appear in the same format on the certificates, it is important that these are correct. Sadly we are not able to reprint certificates.

Award	Mark	Number of Students	Percentage
Roentgenium	49-65	54	0.68%
Gold	30-48	644	8.1%
Silver	22-29	1418	17.9%
Copper	14-21	2899	36.5%
No Award	0-13	2931	46.9%

