

Welcome!  
We are so excited to have you joining our team for a journey through the exciting world of chemistry. We look forward to helping you delve deeper into the study of matter and energy. This field is providing new opportunities in our world every day and we are so thrilled to help you explore some new ideas and strengthen your skills as scientists!

The Chemistry Team

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Teacher/Website** | **Room** | **Phone** | **Email** |
| [Boylan](http://boylanchemistry.weebly.com/) | Room 629 | 512-464-6286 | patrick\_boylan@roundrockisd.org |
| [Childs](http://childschemistry.weebly.com) | Room 625 | 512-464-6281 | madeline\_childs@roundrockisd.org |
| [Dado](http://dadoscience.weebly.com/) | Room 627 | 512-464-6283 | trevor\_dado@roundrockisd.org |
| [Lestik](https://sites.google.com/a/roundrockisd.org/ms-lestik/) | Room 632 | 512-464-6296 | kristina\_lestik@roundrockisd.org |
| [Thomas](https://www.google.com/url?q=https%3A%2F%2Fsites.google.com%2Froundrockisd.org%2Fvthomaschem&sa=D&sntz=1&usg=AFQjCNHH85OBMqGxYc4vRNu4SnDGvdIfEQ) | Room 621 | 512-464-6277 | victoria\_thomas@roundrockisd.org |

Pre-AP Grading Policy\*

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| **Category** | **Frequency of Grade** | **Weight** |
| Tests | 2 per Six-Weeks | 40% |
| Quizzes | 2 per Six-Weeks | 20% |
| Performance | 2 per Six-Weeks | 15% |
| Formal Lab Assessment | 1 per Six-Weeks | 15% |
| Daily | 4 per Six-Weeks | 10% |

\*Grading policies are subject to change, however, any changes will be consistent throughout the department. All tests and quizzes are developed as a department.

Late Work/Opportunity for Improvement\*

To be successful in chemistry, it is important that work be submitted in a timely manner. This ensures that students are receiving feedback in an equally timely manner. Our goal is for the late work policy to assist students in keeping current with their progress.   
 **Late work policy:**

* Each assignment will have a set due date.
* Work that is late may receive up to a 70% and must be turned in by 9 am on Friday of the last week of the 6 week period (or second to last Friday at the end of the semester). Any work received past that point will not be accepted.

**Opportunity for Improvement:**

* Grades less than a 70% on assignments will be eligible for an “upgrade” if you can demonstrate you have learned the material on the unit test or corresponding major lab.
* Upgrades will be for a maximum of 70%.

**Policy on Extra Credit:**

* The Pre-AP Chemistry PLC does not offer extra credit. Instead, students are given copious opportunities to remediate their original work.
* Students are of course always encouraged to excel the first time they complete an assignment, but all assignments that are not passed the first time can be raised to a 70 per school and district policy. Students who wish for their grades to be higher than 70 must achieve those scores the first time they do the assignment, and that assignment must be completed on time.

\*Grading policies are subject to change, however, any changes will be consistent throughout the department. All tests and quizzes are developed as a department**.** Please refer to RRHS grading policy for greater detail.

Retest Policy

To conform with RRISD policy, students who earn less than a 70% on a test have the option to retake that test for up to a 70%.

**Retest Policy:**

* The student will have 2 weeks or until the end of the 6 weeks (whichever is sooner) to take the test for full credit. *After this time, the maximum grade for the test is a 70%.*
* The student will have **ONE** opportunity to retest.
* In order to qualify for a retest, the student must complete relevant assignments and/or supporting activities as directed by the teacher. This may include, but is not limited to:
  + Completion and/or correction of related assignments, tutorials, etc.

Required Materials

See your teacher **before** making any purchases. The list below is based on teacher preference. Bring materials **every** class.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Textbook** | **Notes** | **Technology** |
| [*Texas Chemistry: Matter and Change*](https://connected.mcgraw-hill.com/connected/login.do) Username: rrisds123456  Password: s123456  (Replace 123456 with your ID) | Composition Notebook  **OR**  1.5” Binder  **OR**  $2 for Pre-Printed Booklets  At least 1 Pen and 1 Pencil | School Issued Laptop  **OR**  BYOD  (Device should be fully charged or bring power cord.) |

Supporting Chemistry Success

Chemistry is a difficult course for many students. The following supports have been put in place to ensure student success.

**Tutorials-** Chemistry tutorials are available throughout the week and the schedule is linked below:

[Tutorial Schedule](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1pJP5wB7kGqD4nAmmuHVf6Rt7V-BfWO6ppVUnwoKiQJM/edit?usp=sharing)

* A physical schedule will be posted in each chemistry room.
* When attending tutorials, please bring all materials and supplies.

**Grades-** Please keep track of your student’s progress through our online grade book. A link to the online grade book is provided below:

[Home Access Center Login](https://accesscenter.roundrockisd.org/HomeAccess/Account/LogOn?ReturnUrl=%2fhomeaccess%2f)

* Progress reports/Report cards are sent home by the school every 3 weeks.
* For questions accessing student grades online, contact your student's’ alpha office.

Absences

It is the **student’s** responsibility to collect missing assignments, complete, and submit all work.   
**\*Please refer to RRHS student handbook for more detail.**

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is essential to learning. Any attempt to submit another person’s work as your own is considered cheating, and violates the RRHS Code of Conduct. If any work falls under suspicion as being academically dishonest, the student will be expected to complete an alternative assignment under the teacher’s discretion.

Chemistry teachers hold a reasonable expectation that students will not possess or use cell phones or smart watches during quizzes and tests. Your teacher may choose to collect all student electronic devices during quizzes and tests. **ANY STUDENTS FOUND WITH AN ELECTRONIC DEVICE DURING A QUIZ OR TEST WILL RECEIVE A ZERO FOR THE ASSIGNMENT.**

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**\*Please refer to RRHS student handbook for more detail.**

Helpful Advice from Previous Students

“Be sure to study! Chemistry is not a blow-off class and can be very fun if you understand what’s going on.”

“Really pay attention to the beginning of the year, and really know the basics because chemistry really builds on itself.”

“Don’t stress out! Study and pay attention or come into tutorials if you’re confused and you’ll get it!”

“This class is awesome, but you better study for the tests…”  
  
“Do your Quest homework!!!!! It doesn’t seem important but it IS! It all adds up!”

“Always do Quest because it helps your grade and prepares you for the test.”