Who We Are

Matt Billing, Galvin Khara, Jon Cottom, Ben Blackburn, Tom Collier, Olly Dicks
Anna Gould, Jo Wellington, Andy Mellor, Chris Lynch
Abdou Essadek, Yasmine Al-Hamdani
We invited 40 AS-Level students from Woodhouse College London to attend a fun packed open day in the UCL chemistry department.
Our Aims

- Our aims were to not only get the students interested in exciting chemistry, but to showcase UCL’s fantastic facilities and offer guidance on their university choices.

- It also allowed us M3S students to develop our experience in organising a major project while pooling our resources to complete it on time.
What We Did and What We Learnt

- Over 6 months of planning and monthly meetings.
- Assigned responsibilities to groups and individuals.
- Liaised with the school, food suppliers, UCL promotional and outreach services.
- Developed organisational and delegation skills
- Learnt technical aspects of organising any conference or event
The Talks

- An opening talk on ‘Sniffs and Smells’ by Prof. Andrea Sella, a chemist and broadcaster who works in UCL Chemistry.

- We round off the day with a talk by the UCL Chemistry Department admissions tutor Dr. Dewi Lewis on ‘How to win a Nobel Prize’.
UCL Campus Tour

- A guided tour of the UCL campus by Yasmine and Tom
- Gave the students an idea of campus life
- Answered questions about university applications
- And showed them Jeremy Bentham
Classic Lab Experiments

- The classic lab experiments were run by Matt and Ben.
- Students created nylon (or some did) and played with ferrofluid.
Experiments on magnets and superconductors were run by Chris and Abdou.
They started off teaching the students about magnetism.

Students were then let loose making their own electromagnets.
A demonstration of levitating superconductors on neodymium magnets was performed.
Ice cream creation was run by Ben and Galvin.
They started off by getting the students to make their own ice cream with the ‘salt-shake’ method.

Ben and Galvin then created ice cream using liquid nitrogen.
And lots of ice cream was consumed!
Did we win them over?

Has today’s open day influenced your plans for after A level? If so, how?

Yes - I definitely know I want to study chemistry.

Yes, motivation and inspiration from the PhD students.

Yes, more inclined to study chemistry. They really sold it to me.

Yes, it’s helped me come to term about how much I love chemistry and what I need to do to get to where I want.

I think I will apply for UCL.
A Great Day!

This open day was brilliant.

Fab day, fab organisation and fab experience. Thank you!

Great day, love new friendly students.

Both lecturers were fantastic!

Really enjoyed my day - Thank you

I will get a noble prize

keep being awesome 😊

Seeing so many people with such enthusiasm for Chemistry was really refreshing and inspirational. Also, kudos to the top-notch banter 😊.
Thanks must go to our speakers Prof. Andrea Sella and Dr. Dewi Lewis for some great talks.

I would also like to thank Dr. Zhimei Du for giving up her time to help us organise the day.

And finally I’d like to thank everyone from the M3S program who put a lot of work into organising experiments, liaising with schools, caterers and suppliers and making sure the day ran smoothly.
Thank you so much.