

The Chemical and Process sector involves changing one or more chemicals or chemical compounds. Technology is used to change the composition of chemicals to produce materials such as petrochemical and inorganic chemicals, plastics, detergents, paints and pigments, and more.

Tees Valley is home to an internationally significant Chemical and Process cluster. The area is home to a range of key specialisms in the chemical sector including refining, petrochemicals, speciality and fine chemicals, plastics, biotechnology and pharmaceuticals.

Key Information

There are currently over 5,500 people working in the **Chemical and Process industry in the Tees Valley**

There were over 300 Chemical and Process vacancies advertised online in the Tees Valley in 2019.

Only 26% of the current workforce is female – there is a need to recruit more women to the sector.

Almost half of Tees Valley businesses report having a skills shortage with 44% stating they were struggling to find skilled workers in the chemical process and energy field; with a growing need for skilled engineers.

Careers range from production managers to chemical scientists and lab technicians.

Major employers include SABIC, Lucite International, Huntsman, DuPont Teijin Films UK, INEOS Nitriles, Fine Organics, Alpek Polyester and Chemoxy International.

The Covid-19 pandemic has resulted in increased digitalisation, within both businesses and households, with more home working and learning than ever before. This will create new opportunities for ways of working across all sectors.

Useful Subjects

- Science
- Mathematics
- Technology and Design
- Engineering

Skills and Qualities

- Accuracy and attention to detail
- An interest in science and engineering
- Communication
- Problem solving
- Organising and Planning
- Team Work

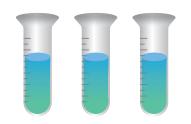
Top 5 specialised skills most requested in Chemical **Process job adverts**

- 1. Budgeting
- 2. Chemistry
- 3. Project Management
- 4. Commissioning
- 5. Chemical Industry Knowledge



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Median annual salaries in the Tees Valley

£39,400
£39,600
£32,100
£28,600
£28,300
£18,600

Routes into Chemical and Process

Apprenticeships are a well-respected route into the chemical process industry with many employers offering well established apprenticeship programmes. Many employers will support work based and academic development through on the job and off the job training, including paying for higher education qualifications. For more information on apprenticeships please visit www.apprenticeships.gov.uk

Further Education in a college or sixth form is also a well-established route into chemical process where qualifications in STEM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) will give you an advantage. To search for a course please visit www.ucas.com/further-education

Higher education is also a popular route into chemical process with courses in subjects such as chemical or process engineering. To find out more please visit **www.ucas.com**.

More Information:

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http://www.whynotchemeng.com www.gradcracker.com



