

# Merseyside Young Analyst Competition

The Merseyside Young Analyst Competition is an annual event run by the Royal Society of Chemistry.

Teams of 3 Year 12 students work together to complete a challenge in analytical chemistry. Recent challenges include:

- Determination of ascorbic acid in Vitamin C tablets
- Determination of active ingredient in analgesic tablets
- Use of instrumental techniques such as uv-vis spectrophotometry and IR spectroscopy



The day also includes lunch and an entertaining lecture on a chemical theme. Recent lectures have been:

- The Analytical Chemist in Forensic Science
- The Extraordinary Chemistry of Food
- The Chemistry of Polymers

The competition is open to **all** schools and colleges in the wider Merseyside region. This is a great opportunity for students to spend time working in a University laboratory and to use instrumental methods of analysis not usually available in schools and colleges.

All participants receive a certificate, and there are prizes for the winning teams. Recent prizewinners include:

- Bellerive FCJ Catholic College (3<sup>rd</sup> Prize 2008)
- Birkenhead School (1<sup>st</sup> Prize 2004, 2006; 2<sup>nd</sup> prize 2008)
- Formby High School (1<sup>st</sup> Prize 2005, 2008)
- Range High School (3<sup>rd</sup> Prize 2007)
- St John Rigby College (2<sup>nd</sup> Prize 2007)
- St Nicholas Catholic High School (1<sup>st</sup> Prize 2007, 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize 2006)

Last year's winners went on to represent the Merseyside Region in the National Final held at University of Lincoln in June. The next Merseyside Young Analyst Competition will be held on **Saturday 7th March 2009**. Further details and application forms will be circulated in *January 2009*.

To find out more contact:

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