

## GLOSSARY OF USEFUL TERMS FOR UNIT 4

<b>Acid</b>	A proton donor
<b>Base</b>	A proton acceptor
<b>Strong/weak acid</b>	A species which fully/partially dissociates in solution to give $\text{H}^+$ ions
<b>Strong/weak base</b>	A species which fully/partially dissociates in solution to give $\text{OH}^-$ ions
<b>pH</b>	The negative logarithm to the base 10 of the hydrogen ion concentration
<b><math>K_w</math></b>	The product the concentrations of hydrogen and hydroxide ions in a solution
<b>Buffer</b>	A solution which can resist a large pH change on addition of small amounts of acid or alkali
<b>Chiral</b>	An atom attached to four different groups (or a molecule containing an atom attached to four different groups)
<b>Enantiomers</b>	Molecules which are non-superimposable mirror images of each other
<b>Optical Activity</b>	The ability to rotate the plane of plane-polarised light
<b>Racemate</b>	An equimolar mixture of two optical isomers