

GCE AQA A-LEVEL BUSINESS

If you want to run a business, work for a business, or simply pick up some skills that will give you an advantage for life in the future, this is the course for you. If you have a keen interest in how businesses work and how to run a successful business, enjoy discussion, team work, debate and research, you will enjoy studying Business. Confidence working with numbers and using the internet are important skills. This is a course which will suit students who are organised, motivated and keen to learn with a strong work ethic.

With a focus on helping you to become a good decision maker, you'll learn essential managerial skills, alongside techniques to help you become an analytical problem solver. You will develop your creativity through the exploration of a range of creative thinking and marketing concepts. These skills are all highly sought after and valued in a wide range of careers. Our content is designed to engage students through topics and issues that are relevant in today's society – they will study key contemporary developments such as digital technology and business ethics, and globalisation is covered throughout the topics.

Modules of study

Students of this course will study business in a variety of contexts (e.g. large/small, UK focused/global, service/manufacturing)

Topic 1 – What is business?

Topic 2 – Managers, leadership and decision making

Topic 3 – Decision making to improve marketing performance

Topic 4 – Decision making to improve operational performance

Topic 5 – Decision making to improve financial performance

Topic 6 – Decision making to improve human resource performance

Topic 7 – Analysing the strategic position of a business

Topic 8 – Choosing the strategic direction

Topic 9 – Strategic methods: how to pursue strategies

Topic 10 – Managing strategic change

Entry requirements

If you have studied Business at GCSE you must have achieved a minimum of grade 6 and a grade 6 in Mathematics. If you have not previously studied Business you need to have achieved at least a grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics.

AQA - The A-level specification is designed to be taken over two years with all assessments taken at the end of the course in May/June.

Assessment

Paper 1	Paper 2	Paper 3
What is assessed All course content	What is assessed All course content	What is assessed All course content
Written exam – 2 hours 100 marks 33.3% of A-Level	Written exam – 2 hours 100 marks 33.3% of A-Level	Written exam – 2 hours 100 marks 33.3% of A-Level
Questions 3 compulsory sections Multiple Choice Short answer questions Essay questions	Questions 3 data response compulsory questions (each made up of 3 or 4 parts)	Questions 1 case study followed by 6 questions

Before the qualification can be awarded, students must undertake **all** the assessments.

Grading

Students will receive a single grade ranging between A* - E (*six point scale*)

Business and your future

If you would like to study business, finance, economics or management at university, A-level Business provides an excellent foundation. The skills you learn are transferable across a broad range of subjects and careers. Whatever you choose to do in the future, you will find that the things you learn in this course will help. For example, you will probably work with lots of different people, so knowledge of motivational theory will help you to work well with others and help them achieve their potential. You might have ambitious plans to start your own business. If that is the case, you will find the marketing and finance topics particularly useful.

Students completing both years of the course can choose between entering University or employment. Students may choose to go on to study business management, marketing, e-commerce or economics at University. Alternatively there are many opportunities with businesses locally and nationally to undertake an apprenticeship or full time career.