



A Level Business Studies

Why study Business Studies?

Business Studies is an excellent preparation for students who either wish to pursue an academic career and further their studies at university or for those who aspire to a future career in management. Businesses range from a single self-employed person to multinational organisations, amazingly it is possible to evolve from a small enterprise to a very large business in less than 10 years, e.g. Twitter was created in 2006 and in November 2013 is valued at \$18bn.

What is the course structure?

We will be following the AQA A-Level syllabus. The qualification will consist of three examination papers sat at the end of Year 2. The qualification takes a holistic approach to the subject, considering the interrelated nature of business through the use of a variety of business models, theories and techniques. The examinations, each two hours in duration, will be held in June and will draw upon a mix of assessment methods from MCQ, data response to extended essay.

Year 1 Units:

Year 1 units offer the opportunity to study business in a variety of contexts (large, small, UK focused, global, serviced based and manufacturing businesses) to consider the process of decision making in functional areas of the business.

Year 2 Units:

Year 2 units explore the strands of business in more depth in terms of considering how more complicated decisions affecting business performance may be made. The content has a strong focus on strategic decision making and strategic direction.

Which activities will I be engaged in during the course?

The aim of the course is for you to become fluent in **analysing business performance** and applying key principles in reaching **creative solutions to business problems**. You will be involved in group activities to model businesses in order to deepen understanding. There will be opportunities to meet people from a range of organisations to explore their roles and thinking, also first-hand links to businesses will be encouraged including the possibility of out of term placements.



How can I prepare for the course?

Read, listen to and watch business news stories. Discuss these with friends and family. Explore any potential links you may have e.g. through work experience, in order to see if you could spend time in any public or private sector organisations once the GCSE examinations are finished. Research the **Young Enterprise secondary programmes** to consider what the possibilities are for the Sixth Form Enrichment offer.

Beneficial websites:

BBC news/ business

Tutor2U

Young Enterprise

Further information: Jane Dixon (Head of Business and Economics)