

Business: A-level (Awarding Body AQA)

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Grade 4 in both English and Mathematics (GCSE in Business not required).

CONTENT

The course provides students with a thorough appreciation of the workings of business and the issues they face. We use practical, real-life business examples in the classroom and investigate a range of different businesses and industries.

First Year

Students will examine the nature of businesses and the environments in which they operate, they will investigate the decision-making process necessary for success in each of the areas below:

- Finance
- Human Resources
- Marketing
- Operations

Second Year

As students progress into the second year of study, the focus of the course shifts towards the strategic position and direction of larger businesses. They will consider:

- Financial strategies and accounts, measuring performance, making financial decisions
- The impact of technology on strategic decision-making
- The influences of corporate social responsibility, and ethical and environmental issues on strategic decisions
- Assessing feasibility and risk
- The impact on stakeholders

Assessment is by three examinations.

PROGRESSION

Most students taking Business A-level carry on their studies at university and many of these choose a business-related course. Students have also been successful in being appointed to higher apprenticeships in business administration, accountancy and banking.

GENERAL COMMENTS

There is a strong emphasis in lessons and in examinations on the analysis of real-life businesses. This requires looking at what's in the news, approaches to business problem-solving and business decision-making so an interest in current affairs in relation to business is important. The course aims to make candidates think about business situations in a critical manner, examining favourable and unfavourable aspects and being able to identify strategies that can be employed in order to improve the performance of businesses.



I chose to study Business at A-level as I was not sure on which career avenue I would want to go down and it is a subject that can be relevant to many job roles.

It can be useful in a number of career paths and university courses, developing many transferable skills so it was a sensible decision for me.

Many aspects of the course can be applied to everyday life such as the case studies used to apply to the exam style questions, which is interesting as it shows how real businesses operate. I really enjoy Business Studies and have found the support and knowledge of my teachers invaluable.



MATT MACEY