

Subject: Business Studies	Awarding Body: AQA
Head of Dept: Mrs Green	Teachers: Mrs Green, Mrs Roberts

Preferred entry requirements: Grade 6 or above in GCSE Maths and English. Ideally also with Grade 6 or above in GCSE Business studies, although students may be considered without this.

Specification Content

Year 1 June Year 1		Year 2 May/June Year 2	
	The first year looks at managing, leading and decision-making, particularly with reference to improving performance in marketing, operations, human resources and finance.		The A level qualification incorporates the same topics as the first year course plus strategic decision-making.
Paper 1	Multiple choice questions, short answer questions and data response questions.	Paper 1	Multiple choice questions, short answer questions and an essay question.
Paper 2	Three multi-part data response questions.	Paper 2	Three multi-part data response compulsory questions.
		Paper 3	Compulsory questions based on one case study.
	Year One assessment is by two one-and-a-half hour written examinations at the end of the course.		The A level is assessed by three two hour written examinations at the end of the course.

Structure of the course:

Students will study 'business' in a variety of contexts, eg large and small businesses, UK focused and global operations, manufacturing and services businesses. The topics lend themselves to studying and engaging with the business world and students are encouraged to follow business developments and think critically about contemporary business issues. This A level specification is taken over two years with all the assessment taken at the end of the course.

Method:

Within the classroom we use a variety of teaching methods, including reference to the prescribed AQA textbook, ebooks and iPad applications, the use of handouts, case studies, class discussions and presentations. Students are required to use a range of both primary and secondary information including websites to support their studies. They are also encouraged to visit the central library, read appropriate newspapers, listen to suitable business podcasts and watch reliable and recommended television programmes.

Strengths/Skills developed through studying this subject:

The course encourages students to acquire a range of important and transferable skills. Students are expected to manipulate data in a variety of forms and to interpret their results; they will present arguments, make judgments and justify their recommendations on the basis of available evidence; they will solve problems and make decisions using appropriate business tools and methods and they will plan work, taking into account the demands of the task and the time available to complete it.

What students do with this qualification:

The course offers a valuable understanding of the complex world of business, commerce and enterprise and aims to promote awareness and understanding of business related issues and to equip students with skills that are relevant beyond the classroom. The qualification provides a suitable foundation for the study of Business or related courses in Higher Education. It is also suitable for candidates intending to pursue a career in business, or further study in business, social sciences or as part of general education; all careers benefit from a sound knowledge of how a business operates.

sixth form