

A Level Business

Examination Board: OCR

Specification Code: H431 – A Level

Why Business?

Business has become one of the most popular post 16 choices in recent years and has experienced huge growth. This course will provide students with an excellent qualification that is both academic in its content and modern in its delivery. Business incorporates what is happening in the present day business environment at local, national and international levels. Teaching and learning is varied in its approach. There is some mathematical content and good oral and written communication skills are necessary. Students will be expected to use different IT software to present their work. All work accessible via the Google classroom suite.

Entry Requirements

QEHS standard entry requirements will apply. Although it helps, it is not a requirement to have studied business at GCSE level. Maths is a key skill when studying A Level Business.

Course Content

The main areas of study in A Level in Business are accounting and finance, external influences, marketing, operations and people in organisations. You will be studying topics such as marketing (the marketing mix, consumer/customer needs), human resources (recruitment, selection and training), operations management (methods of production, capacity management, stock control and logistics/supply chain solutions) and accounting and finance (final accounts, including the calculation of profit). These topics are split between into 3 key areas (see below).

The students will look at these topics critically to be able to make suitable business decisions. Students will be expected to problem solve, offer advice and develop plans in a managerial or consultancy role in 3 distinct areas.

Assessment:

- Component 1
"Operating in a local business environment", Section A contains multiple-choice questions worth a total of 25 marks. The questions can be drawn from any aspect of the specification. Section B contains data response questions which relate to the case study, this section is worth a total of 55 marks.
- Component 2
"The UK business environment", Section A contains a number of short answer questions worth a total of 20 marks. The content of these short answer questions will be drawn from any element of the specification. Section B contains extended response questions which relate to the case study. This section is worth a total of 60 marks.
- Component 3
"The global business environment", This contains extended response questions which relate to the case study. This section is worth a total of 80 marks.

How does this learning differ from pre-16 study?

The main difference from GCSE is that students will develop a critical understanding and application of business theory, acting in a "managerial role" and use their skills to solve real business issues.

Prospects

Beyond A Level, students can proceed to study Business related degrees which are offered by leading universities such as LSE, Bath, Warwick, Manchester and Nottingham. However, there has been a growth in Business degrees combined with social sciences, humanities and languages in recent years. The possibilities are vast and, as such, this qualification provides many opportunities post 18.

Contacts

Please speak to Mr. G. Senescall (Head of Business & Computing) or Miss S. Snow, if you would like to discuss this qualification further.