

BUSINESS

Course Type	GCE
Exam Board	AQA
Pre-requisite qualifications	Grade B in this subject, if taken at GCSE level. At least grade B in English. A desire to read a quality newspaper and keep up to date with current affairs An interest in the operation of a business.

Course Overview

Business is a useful subject and is offered as a GCE. It is an enjoyable and rewarding course suitable for students who have an interest in business. By taking a holistic approach to the subject, we demonstrate the inter-related nature of business using business models, theories and techniques to support analysis of contemporary business issues and situations to provide a dynamic specification. The 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. Students will develop the knowledge and skills needed to analyse data, think critically about issues and make informed decisions – all skills that are needed for further study and employment.

Question papers use a variety of assessment styles including multiple choice, short answer, data response, essay and case studies so that students feel more confident and engage with the questions. Real life case studies will be used wherever possible to make it easier for students to relate to and apply their knowledge and skills developed throughout the course.

The course allows a number of progression routes; university, employment or other business related qualifications.

Topics covered at AS.

- ◆ What is Business?
- ◆ Decision making to improve operational performance
- ◆ Managers, leadership and decision making
- ◆ Decision making to improve financial performance
- ◆ Decision making to improve marketing performance
- ◆ Decision making to improve human resources performance

Examination	Assessment
AS	Two one and half written exams at the end of the year. Paper 1: Two compulsory sections, including multiple choice, short answer questions and data response questions. Paper 2: One compulsory case study consisting of seven questions.
A2	Assessed by three two hour written exams at the end of the course. Paper 1: Multiple-choice questions, short answer and two essays. Paper 2: Three compulsory data response questions. Paper 3: One compulsory case study consisting of six questions.

Suggested career paths

- ◆ Human Resources
- ◆ Accounting
- ◆ Management
- ◆ Marketing

Skills developed

- ◆ Communication
- ◆ Numeracy
- ◆ IT
- ◆ Problem solving
- ◆ Personal skills