



# St Paul's Catholic School

## BUSINESS

### **Entry requirements**

Generic A-Level entry requirements.

### **Why study business?**

A-level Business introduces you to all you need to know about working in business, providing a solid foundation for further study. If you are interested in current affairs and in the financial world then this is the course for you. Your course of study will help you understand how contemporary businesses operate in a dynamic global marketplace. You will develop valuable key skills such as being able to present and evaluate arguments, and make judgments based on statistical analysis and the manipulation of mathematical data. This highly academic course will enable you to focus on the dynamic nature of today's business world. You will consider the major challenges facing business start-ups and the major functions of a business including people, operations, finance and marketing. It encourages the practical application of business concepts by exploring events in the business world and relating these to theories and practice.

**Specification for Year 12 - An introduction to key business areas: marketing, operations, finance and human resource management. This includes a special focus on decision making – particularly how decisions made in one area can affect the rest of the business.**

**Topic 1 – What is business?**

**Topic 2 – Managers, leadership and decision making**

**Topic 3 – Decision making to improve marketing performance**

**Topic 4 – Decision making to improve operational performance**

**Topic 5 – Decision making to improve financial performance**

**Topic 6 – Decision making to improve human resource performance**

**Specification for Year 13 - An investigation of the strategic decisions that all businesses have to make.**

**Topic 7 – Analysing the strategic position of a business**

**Topic 8 – Choosing the strategic direction**

**Topic 9 – Strategic methods: how to pursue strategies**

**Topic 10 – Managing strategic change**

### **A-level assessment**

A-level assessment consists of three 2 hour written exams taken at the end of the two year course. Each exam will be worth a third of the A-level. All three papers will draw on material from the whole



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course, and will feature a range of question styles including multiple choice questions, short answer questions, essay questions, data response questions and case studies

**Board**

AQA

**What does the course combine well with?**

Business related careers usually involve numerical work, computer skills and often, foreign languages and so additional A levels in these subjects make good choices. However, most subjects including other humanities subjects fit in well with business studies.