



St Paul's Catholic School

A LEVEL BUSINESS

Entry requirements

- GCSE Business (not essential but advantages)
- Maths compulsory 5 above (not advisable for students retaking Maths)
- English compulsory 5 above
- 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



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A-level assessment

Exam Board: AQA

At A Level there are 3x 2-hour examinations:

- Paper 1 - 3 compulsory sections including multiple choice, short answer questions and a choice of two essay questions
- Paper 2 - 3 data response compulsory questions
- Paper 3 - One compulsory case study followed by approximately 6 questions

What does the course combine well with?

Business related careers usually involve numerical work, computer skills, economics 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.

PROGRESSION PATHS

University courses in Business Studies, well over 200 universities offer Business Studies Courses. Courses in business plus subjects such as Languages, accountancy, Marketing, Human resources are also available. Employment in financial services, human resource management and the retail sector.

For further information, please contact Mrs Bhana