



A LEVEL BUSINESS (AQA 7132)

What does the course involve?

Business is a social science and explores decision-making about how to improve the performance of commercial organisations of all types and sizes. Students of Business need a solid academic background and a genuine interest in real-world corporate and management challenges, as well as an analytical approach to be able to compare and evaluate different management decisions and weigh up the organisational implications. Studying Business at A Level develops the following skills:

- synthesising data and information from various sources and analysing the resulting findings
- solving problems and making decisions using appropriate frameworks and models
- integrating external and internal considerations into options for justifying decision-making
- evaluating, recommending and justifying decisions using appropriate and relevant language
- producing concise and well-structured arguments and analysis in service of improving performance
- presentation skills relevant to future employment and further studies

Students will build their knowledge of:

- different business forms, ownership structures and legal considerations in companies
- management, leadership and decision-making in organisations, both in theory and practice
- how businesses can take decisions to improve their performance in managing finance, marketing, people and operations
- the development, management and implementation of company growth and business strategy, based on up-to-date models and case studies

Content and Assessment

The A level course covers ten units which are:

Year 12: What is Business? Management & Leadership; Finance, Marketing, Operations, People

Year 13: Strategic Position; Strategic Direction; Strategic Methods; Managing Strategic Change

Assessment is through three 2-hour written exams with the papers being equally weighted:

- **Paper 1** All units, structured as multiple choice, short answers, and 2 essay questions
- **Paper 2** All units, with three equal case studies each covering 3- or 4-part questions
- **Paper 3** All units, with one compulsory case study leading to six extended questions

What are the entry qualifications?

6 good GCSEs at grade 4 and above, with Grade 5s in Maths and English.

What could I do after successfully completing the course?

Business A Level is a well-regarded discipline with a broad mix of theory and practical application. It combines well with a range of other subjects in particular the other social sciences and humanities.

It is a topical and relevant subject that enables students to understand the global issues being faced by companies today and to consider management solutions. It helps develop the skills and knowledge required to work in a business environment and provides a sound platform for students seeking employment after A Levels as well as those with potential to study business courses at university.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT MR S DARCY.