



## Business

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| <b>Awarding Body</b>         | AQA  | <b>Specification Code</b> | 7132 |
| <b>Purpose of the course</b> | <p>The A level lends itself to studying and engaging with the business world. The specification and assessments encourage students to follow business developments and think critically about contemporary business issues. The new specification is designed to take a holistic approach to the subject, and encourage students to demonstrate the interrelated nature of business using business models, theories and techniques to support analysis of contemporary business issues and situations to provide a dynamic specification.</p> <p>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 as well as economic policy.</p>   |                           |      |
| <b>Entry requirements</b>    | English Language and Mathematics at Grade 5  |                           |      |
| <b>Type of qualification</b> | <b>Linear A level</b>  |                           |      |
| <b>Course contents</b>       | <p><u>Year 1</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● the importance of the context of business in relation to decision making</li><li>● the interrelated nature of business activities and how they affect competitiveness</li><li>● the competitive environment and the markets in which businesses operate</li><li>● the influences on functional decisions and plans including ethical and environmental issues</li><li>● the factors that might determine whether a decision is successful eg the quality of data and the degree of uncertainty</li><li>● how technology is changing the way decisions are made, how businesses operate and compete</li><li>● the impact on stakeholders of functional decisions and their response to such decisions</li><li>● use of non-quantitative and quantitative data in decision making (including the interpretation of index numbers and calculations such as ratios and percentages)</li></ul> <p><b>Year 2</b></p> <p>The study of strategic decision making in functional areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● the impact of technology on strategic decision making</li><li>● the influences of Corporate Social Responsibility, ethical, environmental issues on strategic decisions</li><li>● the difficulties in forecasting future trends</li><li>● the importance of assessing feasibility and risk when making strategic decisions</li><li>● the impact on stakeholders of strategic decisions and their response to such decisions</li></ul> <p>Most of the assessment material is based on real business situations. By examining and thinking critically about real business situations as they study the subject, students will gain an insight into different contexts which will help them to understand the key issues in any situation and compare and contrast this with other situations and apply their understanding.</p> |                           |      |

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| <b>Assessment method</b> | <p>Assessed through 3 externally-examined papers, 2 hours per paper, 100 marks each, equally weighted</p> <p>-Paper 1 - Three compulsory sections: Section A has 10 multiple choice questions (MCQs) worth 10 marks, Section B -short answer questions worth approximately 20 marks., Section C - two data response stimuli with questions worth approximately 25 marks.</p> <p>-Paper 2 - Three data response compulsory questions worth approximately 33 marks each and made up of three or four part questions</p> <p>-Paper 3 - One compulsory case study followed by approximately six questions</p> <p>Assessment in A-level Business includes questions that allow students to demonstrate their ability to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• draw together their knowledge, skills and understanding from across the full course of study</li> <li>• provide extended responses.</li> </ul> <p>For example questions in Section C of Paper 1 are extended response questions which require a student to draw together different areas of the specification.</p> <p>An extended response is evidence generated by a student which is of sufficient length to allow that student to demonstrate the ability to construct and develop a sustained line of reasoning which is coherent, relevant, substantiated and logically structured.</p> |
| <b>Further studies</b>   | <p>A plethora of degree options available including business management, business with a language, international business and management science</p>  |
| <b>Subject Lead</b>      | <p>Mrs U Varsani</p>  |