

Business Studies

What will I study and learn?

A level Business Studies explores how businesses operate in society. It combines Economics (how do interest rates and unemployment affect businesses?), Psychology (how do you make the wealthy people at Google work harder?), Creative Arts and Social Media (marketing campaigns that get the 'mix' right), Politics (Brexit and its impact) right through to Leadership and Management, Law and Accounting. We would hope that at the end of the course you can 'speak' business, for instance, you could pick up The Financial Times and understand what is being discussed.

The key skill needed to achieve a high grade in A level Business is the ability to build an argument, considering both the points for and against before coming to a reasoned conclusion. You must have strong writing skills, and the ability to manipulate data to make a point. You will cover the following content:

THEME 1

Marketing and People

THEME 2

Managing Business Activities

THEME 3

Business Decision and Strategy

THEME 4

Global Business

Beyond the classroom

The last few years have seen us: visit a variety of businesses, of which some were the focus of the paper 3 exam (we will visit whichever business is chosen by the exam board on future cases as this worked so well); have entrepreneurs come in to speak to our students about their journeys (including their risks and rewards); win the ICAEW BASE competition three times for the area and finish second nationally; and take part in a joint Computing/Business Studies trip to San Francisco to visit tech giants (organised through our OB network).

Future opportunities

We have developed links with businesses, some offering opportunities for summer work experience.

Students often go on to study a degree in a business-related subject at Russell Group universities, such as Leeds, Reading and Birmingham.

“Our teachers are so passionate about the subject they teach and all truly want us to do our best – their support is amazing.”

Jess OB

Courses: Business Studies, Psychology and Physical Education





Studying business has given me the opportunity to further my knowledge of the world around me”

Esme, OB

Courses: Business Studies, Psychology and Geography

Want to know more?

Mr Glenn Maxwell

Head of Economics and Business Studies

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Exam Board:

[qualifications.pearson.com](https://www.pearson.com/qualifications)

(Edexcel)

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed by three exams at the end of the Upper Sixth:

Paper 1

35%

Marketing, People and Global Business.

Paper 2

35%

Business Activities, Decisions and Strategies.

Paper 3

30%

Investigating Business in a Competitive Environment – this paper will always have a theme; for example, in 2024 it was the clothing industry.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

There is no need to have studied the subject beforehand as it is delivered on the basis of no previous understanding. However, a minimum 7 in Mathematics and English is suggested. If you have taken GCSE Business Studies, we would be looking for a grade 8 in the subject.