



# Business

## Why Business?

A Level Business develops students' understanding of how businesses operate, make decisions and respond to opportunities and challenges in changing markets.

The Pearson Edexcel 9BS0 course combines business theory with real-world contexts, quantitative skills and analytical decision-making. Students need to understand not only what business concepts mean, but also how and why they affect organisations and how to apply them to unfamiliar situations.

## What will students study?

- Theme 1 – Marketing and people
- Theme 2 – Managing business activities
- Theme 3 – Business decisions and strategy
- Theme 4 – Global business

## How is the course assessed?

Students therefore need to develop strong subject knowledge alongside the ability to apply business concepts, analyse cause and effect, interpret quantitative and qualitative evidence and make justified judgements.

## What do I need?

A GCSE in Business Studies or similar qualification is not needed for this course but a wider base of skills are. The course requires some extended writing for the essay answers that come in the examination papers. Also, some mathematics is involved in the finance areas of the specification. Normal entry requirements for Sixth Form will be a prerequisite.

## Successful study looks like?

A Level Business requires consistent work throughout the course. Students should:

- Learn and use key Business terminology, theories and models accurately
- Complete exam-style questions and practise responding to different command words
- Apply answers closely to the business context and evidence provided
- Develop clear chains of analysis showing cause and effect
- Practise calculations and interpretation of quantitative data
- Evaluate competing arguments and reach supported, contextualised judgements
- Keep up to date with current business issues and real-world examples

Success in A Level Business comes from combining accurate knowledge with strong application, analysis and evaluation. Regular practice with case studies and exam questions is therefore essential.

| Paper                                                         | Content                                                          | Assessment                            | Weighting |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| Paper 1 – Marketing, people and global businesses             | Themes 1 and 4                                                   | 2-hour written examination; 100 marks | 35%       |
| Paper 2 – Business activities, decisions and strategy         | Themes 2 and 3                                                   | 2-hour written examination; 100 marks | 35%       |
| Paper 3 – Investigating business in a competitive environment | All four themes; pre-released broad context plus unseen stimulus | 2-hour written examination; 100 marks | 30%       |