



STAFFORD
SIXTH FORM

Course title: Business Studies A-level Pearson

Academic year:	2026
Course Venue:	Blessed William Howard Catholic High School
Course Type:	A Level
Duration:	2 years

Course Description:

The Pearson Edexcel Level 3 Advanced GCE in Business is a rigorous and engaging two-year course that equips students with a strong understanding of how businesses operate and make decisions in an ever-changing economic environment. The course is structured around four key themes and is assessed through three externally examined papers taken at the end of Year 13.

During Themes 1 and 2, studied in Year 12, students are introduced to fundamental business concepts, terminology, and theories. These themes focus on functional areas such as marketing, finance, operations, and people management, enabling students to build a secure foundation of knowledge. Students apply these concepts to real-world business contexts, developing an understanding of how businesses are set up, managed, and respond to internal and external influences.

In Themes 3 and 4, studied primarily in Year 13, students deepen and extend their knowledge by exploring business strategy, growth, globalisation, and decision-making in more complex and unfamiliar contexts. These themes require students to adopt a more strategic and synoptic perspective, integrating knowledge from across the course to analyse business opportunities, assess risks, and evaluate strategic choices faced by organisations operating on a national and global scale.

Throughout the course, students are encouraged to take an enquiring, critical, and reflective approach to the study of business. They learn to interpret quantitative and qualitative data, consider multiple stakeholder perspectives, challenge assumptions, and construct well-reasoned judgements supported by evidence. Real business case studies and contemporary examples are used extensively to bring theory to life and develop exam-ready analytical and evaluative skills.





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Course Content:

Theme 1: Marketing and People

Students will develop an understanding of meeting customer needs, the market marketing mix and strategy, managing people, entrepreneurs and leaders.

Theme 2: Managing Business Activities

Students will develop an understanding of raising finance, financial planning, managing finance, resource management and external influences.

Theme 3: Business Decisions and Strategy

This theme develops the concepts introduced in Theme 2. Students will develop an understanding of business objectives and strategy, business growth, decision-making techniques, influences on business decisions, assessing competitiveness and managing change

Theme 4: Global Business

This theme develops the concepts introduced in Theme 1. Students will develop an understanding of globalisation, global markets and business expansion, global marketing and global industries and companies (multinational corporations).

Entry requirements:

The standard entry criteria to study in the sixth form are a 9-4 in at least seven different subjects, including English and mathematics, which would usually be at grade 4 or above.

Financial Information:

All course related material will be provided. Students will be required to equip themselves with a folder, calculator, pens & writing pad.



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Future opportunities:

A Level Business provides an excellent foundation for:

- University degrees, including:
 - Business Management
 - Economics
 - Marketing
 - Finance
 - Accounting
 - Law
- Higher and Degree Apprenticeships in:
 - Business administration
 - Management
 - Finance
 - Marketing
- Employment, particularly roles involving:
 - Administration
 - Sales and marketing
 - Retail management
 - Entrepreneurship

The skills developed—analysis, decision-making, evaluation, and commercial awareness—are highly valued by employers.



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Further information:

- Assessment: 3 written examinations at the end of Year 13
- No coursework
- Strong links to Economics, Maths, and Social Sciences
- Ideal for students interested in how businesses respond to change and make strategic decisions

