



Our academic courses quick guide for parents and students –

B.Tec First Diploma in Business.

This course teaches students both the theoretical and practical sides of being a member of the business community and how to start and run a successful business. The subject is 'hands on.' It takes three option columns and all three must be marked. The course is equivalent to four A*-C GCSE's and leads to further study at college in business related fields or A Level business, and or prepares students to leave school and start their first business. Assessment consists of six pieces of coursework in the following fields–

- Unit 1 – Introduction to business activity.
- Unit 2 – The key business pressures you will experience.
- Unit 3 – Your business success through financial control.
- Unit 4 – Successful sales and customer service.
- Unit 5 – The world of business online.
- Unit 6 – How to start your new business.

Applied Business.

This traditionally is our most favoured course at GCSE. The course allows a student to acquire 2 A*-C GCSE's. Students study three units, take one examination in Finance after the first four months of study, and then complete two pieces of coursework investigating and comparing businesses. Success in this subject allows a student to undertake further study at college in business related fields, or use the two GCSE's to undertake study in any field.

GCSE Business Studies.

This course is the traditional GCSE in Business Studies. Students obtain a single GCSE. The course is assessed through one piece of coursework on marketing (25%) and an external examination (75%). The course is broken into units of study that introduce students to the theory of running business, the internal operations of business and financial control.

GCSE Economics.

This subject allows students to undertake a full study into the economics of the U.K., European and World economies, allowing the student to gain one GCSE. The course is broken into six units and is fully externally assessed through two examinations, one being short answer and two short essays (1.5hrs), and the second being the interpretation of current events by reading newspaper articles or data and answering approximately six questions (1 hr). The subject challenges students to assess the relationship between economic decisions, the law and politics on such issues as NHS reform. The subject is greatly enjoyed by students committed to academic study. Success in the subject allows a student to use the GCSE to undertake further study at college in any field.

Recommended combinations in option choice.

B.Tec (4 GCSE's equivalent)

Applied Business (2 GCSE's)

GCSE Business Studies and GCSE Economics (2 GCSE's)



Extra opportunities and recognition of excellence.

The Business Area and School provide constant extra opportunities for students and encourage all students undertaking studies to avail themselves of the opportunities. The Area has a very active Gifted and Talented Team, an Excellence in Business team, Area Prefects, college and university visits, fashion shows, guest speakers from industry and successful business, Young Enterprise, Law classes, and Investing and Advanced Economics classes. Practical learning outside the school takes place at every possible opportunity.