

Business - NEW SPECIFICATION FOR 2026

Exam board: AQA

Entry requirements:

- GCSE Grade 6 or above in Business
- **New to Business** - GCSE Grade 6 or above in English and Mathematics



Students at the Thorpe Park marketing workshop

Course content:

Year 12 (first year) 3.1 Focus: What is business, managing marketing and finance.

3.2 Focus: Managing operations and people.

Year 13 (second year) 3.3 Focus: Business and society, business and the external environment, and business strategy.

Assessment: NO coursework.

A-level assessment consists of three x 2 hour written exams taken at the end of the two year course. Each paper is 90 marks, with the exam being worth a third of the A-level. ALL papers to be sat in order to pass the qualification.

A-level

Component	Maximum raw mark	Scaling factor	Maximum scaled mark
Paper 1	90	x1	90
Paper 2	90	x1	90
Paper 3	90	x1	90
Total scaled mark:			270

Paper 1 Focus 3.1 – Two case studies, each followed by five compulsory questions.

Paper 2 Focus 3.2* - Two case studies, each followed by five compulsory questions but question endpoints may require knowledge and skills from Unit 3.1, including calculations. For example, teamwork (3.2.1) and ends with financial performance (3.1.4).

Paper 3 Focus 3.3~ - Two case studies, each followed by five compulsory questions but question endpoints may require knowledge and skills from across Units 3.1 and 3.2, including calculations. For example, analyse one way in which a change in the legal environment (3.3.2) might affect the profit (3.1.4) of the business.

One 15-mark question in paper 3 will require learners to draw together knowledge and skills from across the full course.

Why choose Business: Business A-Level is a great choice for anyone interested in the world of commerce and entrepreneurship. It's a great way to prepare for university courses in the fields of business and management. We have seen a huge increase in our students applying for these types of degrees at FSG. It will equip you with the know-how to start up your own business or follow a career in finance, accounting, marketing or management post university. You will engage with the world of business through the context of current business developments and real business situations. You will learn how management, leadership and decision-making can improve performance in marketing, operation, financial and human resources. You'll also explore the interrelated nature of business activities and how they affected businesses, be they large or small, UK or internationally focused and in different sectors.

*3.1 context underpinned ~ 3.1 & 3.2 context underpinned

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