



## AS/A2 BUSINESS STUDIES

Head of Department – Ms S. Aziz

### EXAMINATION BOARD

AQA

### ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

GCSE English Language grade B or above. If students have studied GCSE Business Studies they must have grade A or above.

### THE COURSE

Business Studies aims to provide the student with some of the basic factual information surrounding businesses and their operations. It examines the objectives of business organisations and how these objectives are attained. The course is not intended to be vocational but aims to make candidates think about business in a 'critical' manner, examining favourable and unfavourable aspects. It will enable the student to examine the aims, objectives and practices of business organisations from economic, environmental and social aspects, understanding the point of view of the nation, local community, industry, proprietors, management, employees and consumers.

A brief summary of some of the major areas covered in the Business Studies course are as follows:-

- The problems of setting up a business, including location and management structures.
- The need for effective communication and the uses of new technology.
- The study of how firms organise efficient production to satisfy customers. This will include stock control, quality management, capacity utilisation and lean production methods.

- Interpreting accounting reports and financial reports, to be able to say whether a firm is doing well or badly from the published accounts of that firm.
- Marketing, including price, quality, packaging, advertising, distribution and transportation.
- Manpower, including recruitment, training, bargaining and motivation.
- Economic considerations and international trading.
- Government policy.
- Legal and social considerations.

### ASSESSMENT

- Jan Year 12 - Planning and Financing a Business (1½hr/20% of A level)
- June Year 12 - Managing a Business (1½hr/30% of A level)
- Jan Year 13 - Managing a Business (1½hr/25% of A level)
- June Year 13 - The Business Environment and Change (1½hr/25% of A level)

### ORGANISATION OF WORK

Although regular weekly assignments are set throughout the course, dedicated students must be keen to supplement specific class and homework activities with individual research from books, journals, newspapers, computer based resources, television reports and DVDs. Case studies will be used where possible and visits to business organisations or from visiting speakers will be arranged. A lively interest in current business affairs is important.