

In the Business department, we offer three subjects that can be studied in sixth form

1. A level Business

We study the Edexcel A level specification. This involves studying four different themes across the two years and culminates in three exams at the end of year 13.

Theme 1: Marketing and people	Theme 2: Managing business activities
Students will develop an understanding of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• meeting customer needs• the market• marketing mix and strategy• managing people• entrepreneurs and leaders.	Students will develop an understanding of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• raising finance• financial planning• managing finance• resource management• external influences.
Theme 3: Business decisions and strategy	Theme 4: Global business
This theme develops the concepts introduced in Theme 2. Students will develop an understanding of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• business objectives and strategy• business growth• decision-making techniques• influences on business decisions• assessing competitiveness• managing change.	This theme develops the concepts introduced in Theme 1. Students will develop an understanding of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• globalisation• global markets and business expansion• global marketing• global industries and companies (multinational corporations).

Students take three two-hour exams at the end Year 13, paper 1 includes Theme 1 and 4, paper 2 includes Theme 2 and 3 and paper 3 is a pre-release context paper, where students apply their knowledge to an industry. Past industries have included; Entertainment, Leisure, Fast food and Travel.

2. A level Economics

We study the AQA A level specification. The specification is split into two main sections, the first section introduces students to microeconomic issues and the second section covers mainly macroeconomic issues.

Students will be assessed through three examination papers. The first paper will examine mainly the topics that are outlined in the microeconomics issues, the second paper will include topics outlined in the macroeconomic section and the third paper will include topics from both sections of the specification and students, particularly when answering questions linked to the case study, will be expected to recognise when it is appropriate to use microeconomic and/or macroeconomic models.

Our approach to Economics is to apply economic theory to support analysis of current economic problems and issues, and encourage students to appreciate the interrelationships between microeconomics and macroeconomics.

Students develop the knowledge and skills needed to understand and analyse data, think critically about issues and make informed decisions.

3. Level 3 Financial Studies

The course encourages students to become responsible borrowers and sensible savers, and to appreciate the need for financial planning throughout their life. It prepares them for further study by developing the core skills of critical analysis and evaluation, verbal communication (through classroom discussion) and written communication.

This greater understanding of financial planning can support entry to university on finance and banking courses and a wide range of other disciplines. It also supports progress to a wide range of entry level occupations within finance, ensuring that learners understand the sector and have a range of transferrable skills and knowledge.

CeFS is made up of **two mandatory units** which need to be successfully completed in order for the student to achieve the certificate:



Unit 1 is examined in January of Year 12 and Unit 2 in May of Year 12. If students successfully pass both units, then they can progress onto the Diploma in Financial Studies where two more units are studied in Year 13.