

HIGHDOWN SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM CENTRE

Frequently Asked Questions



BUSINESS STUDIES & ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT

What do you offer at Highdown?

Our current offer at Highdown is GCSE Business at Key Stage Four, Level 2 Business and Enterprise Post 16, A Level Business and A Level Economics.

What would I study at GCSE Business?

The GCSE Business course is run by AQA. During this course students have the opportunity to learn about the way in which a business is set up and the challenges it may face for survival. Students also look at the different departments within a business such as operations, marketing, finance and HR and how these can be managed effectively. Assessment is through two written exams at the end of Year 11 which analyses how a student can understand the content and apply it to real-business contexts.

How many students take Business and Economics?

We are a popular choice at GCSE Business with two classes running each year and the school is committed to having no more than 31 in a class.

At A level we are also becoming increasingly popular with classes above 20 which enables good discussion and opportunities for varied opinions.

What is Economics?

Economics is a social science concerned with production, distributions and consumption of goods and services. The study of Economics at A Level looks at the two main strands; macroeconomics which concentrates on the behaviour of the economy as a whole and microeconomics which focuses on individual people and businesses.

Are classes mixed ability?

Students studying Business and Economics will be studying in mixed ability classes. Teachers within the department are focused on ensuring that differentiation is occurring in the classroom and outside to ensure that the needs of each student are met.

Do you run enterprise clubs?

We currently do not have an enterprise club running within the school but are working with the House teams and Careers to introduce enterprise activities into the school calendar. There is a focus this year on the National Enterprise Week where students in Year 7 and 8 will participate in a Tenner Challenge competition. All students within the school will have the opportunity to participate in enterprise related activities during this week.