Wootton Upper School
WOOTTON ACADEMY TRUST
Kimberley College

Business, Economics & Finance Department

Business, Economics and Finance qualifications are very popular subjects at WAT; the department has enjoyed marked success over many years.

Currently there are four teachers in the department: one member of staff is based at Wootton Upper School where all KS3 and KS4 teaching is delivered; another colleague is based at Kimberley College in delivering the majority of our KS5 Economics and Finance teaching. Two teachers divide their time evenly between the Wootton Upper School and Kimberley College teaching a variety of classes across KS3, KS4 and KS5. All of the team is supportive, enthusiastic and hard-working with the primary aim of bringing the business world into the classroom.

We have very high aspirations for all students, and work exceptionally hard at providing support to ensure students achieve their potential. The department has a good track record at GCSE level. In 2017, the department achieved GCSE A*-C results above 70% and A*-A over 20%. At A-level, our legacy qualification in Applied Business received an ALPS grade 5 and we achieved ALPS 4 in Economics. Our QCF BTEC National grades were also very pleasing, with all students surpassing their target grades. We aim to keep improving this and push for ever greater levels of progress. We always welcome new ideas and approaches to enhance students' achievement at all levels.

The department offers students a broad range of qualifications which meet the needs of all learners. At KS3, students may choose our Business, Economics and Enterprise course which provides them with a comprehensive introduction to our subjects and gives them a strong foundation to support further study within the department. Over 150 Year 9 students who have selected this course. In KS 4 students may choose OCR GCSE or BTEC First Award in Business, both of which are incredibly popular. The department offers a wide range of academic and vocational qualifications as part of the Sixth Form curriculum including AQA A-level Business, Edexcel A Economics, NQF BTEC National Diploma in Business and the LIBF Certificate and Diploma in Financial Studies.

The department also endeavours to provide students with extra-curricular opportunities and links to the workplace. This year has seen the formation of enterprise leaders at Wootton Upper with the responsibility for promoting and developing enterprise across the trust. The department also runs successful trips to the Milton Keynes Apprenticeships Fair and Tutor2u grade booster workshops for A-level and BTEC students. In addition, the department takes full advantage of local business leaders and has benefited from some excellent guest speakers. The department is very keen to develop further links and provide even more opportunities for students to develop their business skills.