

THE TEAM /FACILITIES

The department consists of four experienced teachers, including one Assistant Headteacher, who share responsibility for teaching the range of courses on offer. Regular department meetings are held to share views and discuss and put new developments in place.

We are accommodated in various teaching rooms throughout the school; the majority of our sixth form teaching takes place in our recently refurbished sixth form block. Each teaching room has a PC and interactive whiteboard. All courses are well resourced with text books, digital resources and other materials. We make regular use of one of our well-equipped ICT suites which can accommodate a class of 30 with ease.

KEY STAGE 4

GCSE Business is a successful course at Ousedale. There are currently three groups of students in Year 10 and two in Year 11 at the Newport Pagnell campus; in previous years we have also been able to offer the course at our Olney campus although this is not the case at present. We believe that as well as strong subject knowledge, developing students' extended writing skills is paramount to the success of our students.

We follow the Edexcel GCSE Business Studies course – Year 11 are the final cohort to be following the old specification of three units and Year 10 are now being taught under the new 2017 specifications.

KEY STAGE 5

We offer four different courses at post-16. Students benefit from five hours a week of teaching in both Year 12 and Year 13.

Level 3 BTEC Extended Certificate in Business (Edexcel)

BTEC Business is a popular and successful course at post-16. All classes benefit from access to ICT facilities during lessons, as well as the ample resources around the sixth form study centre which allows for effective independent study to take place. Our current cohort in Year 13 will be the last to study this course.

A-Level Business Studies (AQA)

A-Level Business Studies is a new course in its second year of teaching. The course currently has one large class in Year 13 and two large classes in Year 12; we anticipate that this is likely to grow in future.

A-Level Economics(Edexcel)

Economics continues to be a popular choice at Ousedale. We currently have two classes in both year groups. Teaching and learning takes place exclusively in a classroom on the top floor of the sixth form centre.

LIBF Certificate/Diploma in Financial Studies

The LIBF Diploma is a successful course which has been running for many years at Ousedale and achievement has traditionally been very high. We currently have 67 students across both years registered for the subject.

STYLE

At all stages we try to ensure that our subjects are taught in a lively and interesting way and that students enjoy the subject. In line with school expectations, teachers are intended to be a source of expertise for their students. As a department, we are working on activities and questions that enhance the depth of breadth of student understanding, as well as their ability to communicate this clearly in written form. Subject teachers provide regular feedback to students on aspects of their work and the expectation is that students will act on this feedback in order to secure progress over time.