Oxford Spires Academy EBIT

In EBIT we want to equip all our students with the tools and qualifications to develop and succeed in changing and challenging times. The world now is uncertain, so we believe that our students need to develop key personal skills and knowledge to help them thrive in the future, whichever direction they choose moving forward.

We consider that business studies and computer science are key subjects which help all students foster not only a knowledge of the business and IT sector but also grow their skills as individuals in communication, planning, innovation and problem solving. These are all key skills needed for their future study and careers.

Our staff have a range of skills and experience both in education and industry. This gives them the tools to help students fulfill their potential and ensures lessons are relevant and up to date.



Computer Science is essentially about problem solving, using computer technology as a tool to solve a range of problems. Problems that computer science solves vary greatly in scope and complexity. However, the core vehicle for achieving this is computational thinking (abstraction, decomposition, algorithms, and pattern recognition). This skill set shares a lot with mathematics, but also requires an element of "creative flair" in order to think "outside the box" to realise solutions that may not be that traditional.

Computer Science is not IT. Computer Science does not only use existing software it creates new software – mostly by writing programs or by applying knowledge about computer systems or the mathematics behind those systems - to achieve a solution.

In Years 7 - 9 students are given a foundational understanding of computer systems, some of the mathematics behind how computers work and are introduced to programming. A second emphasis in KS3 is on IT skills to ensure students are equipped to use a computer as a tool, no matter what their GCSE choices are.

In GCSE programming is formalised through console base Python coding. A substantial part of the course is about programming, but there is also a broad and detailed body of theory relating to how computer systems and networks work, in addition to cyber security and legal aspects of computer technology. The programming aspects culminates in completing coding projects.

In A-Level programming is extended to include not only Python but a range of other languages as well such as Java Script, LMC Assembler, PHP and SQL, and programming emphasis moves from console based programming to GUIs and the use of Object Orientated Programming techniques. GCSE Computing provides an ideal springboard for A-Level computer Science. The A-level course requires the completion of an independent GUI programming project, which comprises 20% of the final grade.

I chose Business because it applies our lives now and in the future" - Nailah Hoque

I feel Business will help me to develop skills I will use in the workplace and in real life" - Tanvir Rahman

I chose business so I can follow in my father's footsteps" - Fahim Ahmed

At Key Stage 5 BTEC Business (single and double option) gives learners experience of the breadth and depth of the business sector that will prepare them for further study, training or the workplace. Our BTEC courses focus on skills-based learning and are designed around themed units. This practical approach allows students to develop and apply the knowledge and skills that employers and universities are looking for.



Students can study a BTEC alongside their A Levels at OSA. Single Business is equivalent to 1 A Level and Double is equivalent to 2 A Levels. Single Business covers core units in business environments, finance and marketing and HR. Double business covers all these units but students also study international business, management and event management.

Assessment is a mixture of exams and coursework and the final grade is built up by regular assessments throughout the course. Our students find this combination helps relieve pressure for them at the end of the two years as they have worked steadily throughout for their final grade.

A Level Business

Our A level course introduces you to all you need to know about working in business, providing a solid foundation for further study. With a focus on helping you to become a good decision maker, you'll learn essential managerial skills, alongside techniques to help you become an analytical problem solver. These skills are all highly sought after and valued in a wide range of careers.

You will start with an introduction to business to enable you to have a understanding of types of business, how they are formed and operate. You will move onto Management, Leadership and decision making in business. Next you will look at areas within business including Marketing, Operations, Finance and Human Resources and how to



make the right choices to ensure business success. Finally, you will learn about Strategy within business and managing change.

Assessment is an AS exam at the end of year 12 which will give you a recognised qualification equivalent to half an A level and a full A level exam at the end of Year 13.

