What do you particularly enjoy about studying this subject?

I enjoy researching different businesses and getting to apply the knowledge within the coursework. It enables you to understand more about the world of business as well as looking at the financial aspect of it too. It allows your skills to be developed in areas such as, critical thinking, strong communication skills and decision making. The course pushes you to think logically.

How much work is involved? (hours in lessons / outside of lessons)

Each lesson is 2 hours long. If it’s a coursework-based lesson you can end up completing the section of the assignment within that time frame but if lessons go over you can use your own time to finish the work, which can also be a couple of hours. Within the finance section we cover the different topics and complete a handout and questions. It is crucial to spend 1-2 hours on revision with this section to ensure you fully understand it. It is time consuming but by planning out the hours and putting in the effort it will eventually pay off.

If you studied the subject at GCSE how different is studying it at BTEC Level 3?

With GCSE Business the course focused more on the financial side and involved a lot of maths. However, with BTEC Business you’re a lot more independent within your studies and get to look in depth at how big businesses operate and how they manage to remain successful.

How are you assessed and how regularly?

We are only assessed on the finance part of the course. We go over the calculations every lesson to allow them to stay fresh in our minds. Once we’ve completed a topic, we then answer different exam questions to see our strengths and weaknesses. Once we’ve completed all the topics we complete past exam papers to see how we’d perform which usually happens at least every month. This happens a lot because there is a lot to remember and it pushes you to stay on top of revision.

What support have you received and is support available if you don’t understand something?

Support is available to everyone and ranges from extra revision booklets being handed out, to coursework being broken down into sections and tutorials every week. This enables us to review our work and see where we need extra help whilst also having the subject become easier. The teachers are always willing to help and will go the extra mile to do so.
Have you received careers support and what are your future plans?

I have received support and advice about Work Experience placements and Apprenticeships. The advice is extremely helpful and allowed me to have a better idea of what I want my future to be like. In the future my plans are to complete the UAL Art Foundation Course at Carmel and go into the business side of fashion, for example, fashion retail.