

Welcome to Accounting & Finance!

Every business, football club, influencer, retailer, charity and government organisation relies on financial information to make decisions. Over the summer, complete as many of the challenges below as you can. There is no need to hand anything in, but the more you explore, the more prepared you will be for September.

1. Explore the world of Business and Finance

Choose a business that you use regularly and interests you. Find out:

- What products or services does it provide?
- How does it make money?
- What costs might it have?
- Who are its competitors?
- What challenges does it face?

If you were the owner, what financial information would you want to know before making decisions?

2. Read: Business and Financial News

Accounting and finance professionals need to understand what is happening in the economy and business environment. Follow at least one business news story each week.

Useful Sources:

- BBC Business News
- Sky News Business
- Financial Times (selected free articles)
- The Guardian Business

Consider:

- Which businesses are being discussed?
- Are they making a profit or loss?
- What financial challenges are they facing?
- How could these events affect customers and employees?



3. Dragons Den Detective:

Watch an episode of Dragon's Den - [BBC One - Dragons' Den](#). Ask yourself:

- Would you invest?
- Why?
- What information is missing?
- How would you know if the business was financially successful?

3. Explore: Accounting & Finance Careers

Use the useful websites below to explore a variety of careers in accounting and finance.

- National Careers Service: <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk>
- Prospects: <https://www.prospects.ac.uk>
- Association of Accounting Technicians (AAT) - <https://www.aat.org.uk>
- Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) - <https://www.accaglobal.com/uk/en.html>
- Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW) - <https://www.icaew.com>

4. Podcasts

The podcasts below will give you an insight into how accounting and finance concepts impact on real businesses.

Podcasts:

Wake Up To Money (BBC Sounds) - [BBC Radio 5 Live - Wake Up to Money](#)

The Rest Is Money - [The Rest Is Money | Podcast on Spotify](#)

Business Daily (BBC) - [BBC Sounds - Business Daily - Available Episodes](#)

The purpose of this preparation is simply to help you feel more confident and motivated before starting the course. No formal work will be collected or assessed, but the students who engage with these resources often find the transition to Level 3 much easier.

