

## Programme Specification: Undergraduate

### For Academic Year 2024/25

#### 1. Course Summary

<b>Names of programme and award title(s)</b>	BSc (Hons) Accounting with Business Analytics BSc (Hons) Accounting with Business Analytics with Work Placement Year (see Annex for details) BSc (Hons) Accounting with Business Analytics with Entrepreneurship Year (see Annex for details)
<b>Award type</b>	Single Honours
<b>Mode of study</b>	Full-time
<b>Framework of Higher Education Qualification (FHEQ) level of final award</b>	Level 6
<b>Normal length of the programme</b>	3 years, 4 years with Placement Year or Entrepreneurship Year between years 2 and 3
<b>Maximum period of registration</b>	The normal length as specified above plus 3 years
<b>Location of study</b>	Keele Campus
<b>Accreditation (if applicable)</b>	n/a
<b>Regulator</b>	Office for Students (OfS)
<b>Tuition Fees</b>	<p><b>UK students:</b></p> <p>Fee for 2024/25 is £9,250*</p> <p><b>International students:</b></p> <p>Fee for 2024/25 is £21,900**</p> <p>The fee for the work placement year is calculated at 20% of the standard year fee</p>

**Please note this document applies to Level 6 (Year 3) students in 2026/27. Level 4 and 5 (Year 1 and 2) students should refer instead to the document labelled '2026/27'.**

**How this information might change:** Please read the important information at <http://www.keele.ac.uk/student-agreement/>. This explains how and why we may need to make changes to the information provided in this document and to help you understand how we will communicate with you if this happens.

\* These fees are regulated by Government. We reserve the right to increase fees in subsequent years of study in response to changes in government policy and/or changes to the law. If permitted by such change in policy or law, we may increase your fees by an inflationary amount or such other measure as required by government policy or the law. Please refer to the accompanying Student Terms & Conditions. Further information on fees can be found at <http://www.keele.ac.uk/studentfunding/tuitionfees/>

\*\* These fees are for new students. We reserve the right to increase fees in subsequent years of study by an inflationary amount. Please refer to the accompanying Student Terms & Conditions for full details. Further information on fees can be found at <http://www.keele.ac.uk/studentfunding/tuitionfees/>

## 2. What is a Single Honours programme?

The Single Honours programme described in this document allows you to focus more or less exclusively on this subject. In keeping with Keele's commitment to breadth in the curriculum, the programme also gives you the opportunity to take some modules in other disciplines and in modern foreign languages as part of a 360-credit Honours degree. Thus it enables you to gain, and be able to demonstrate, a distinctive range of graduate attributes.

## 3. Overview of the Programme

The Accounting with Business Analytics Programme is a Single Honours Degree that enables students to specialise in accountancy but to also be able to develop the business analytics skills that are increasingly demanded by employers. Students have the opportunity to gain exemptions from a range of accounting professional bodies should they decide to continue into a career as an accountant in practice, industry or the public sector. They will also have the chance to earn professional certification in the use of common software tools used for analytics tasks such as Tableau. Accounting and analytics are predominantly vocational subjects but to complement core knowledge this award develops other skills and principles from areas, such as finance, economics, law, management and technology.

Accounting is a satisfyingly progressive area of study, starting with the core principles of financial and management accounting, the logical and methodical preparation of financial statements, building upon these to intermediate and advanced levels to be in a position to provide advice and opinion in critical decision making. The study of analytics complements the accounting topics using quantitative information to inform decision making. Taken together the topics provide a real world / live link between study and the business world.

A wide range of transferable skills supports specific subject knowledge, enabling learners to undertake research, work independently or in a group, manage their time efficiently, interpret and evaluate information and develop their communication (presentation) and writing skills. All these skills are highly valued by prospective employers.

The Programme is designed to provide an undergraduate education experience in accounting or business analytics but will also support students seeking a rewarding career in finance or a range of business roles or for progression to further study in related disciplines. The programme is academically rigorous, and delivered in a supportive but challenging learning environment that provides sound foundations that enable students to acquire a range of skills that are highly relevant for either subsequent careers or further study.

The use of analytic techniques in organisations is ubiquitous. This degree introduces students to the collection, storage, analysis and communication of data. These are skills necessary to understand how organisations make decisions in a data rich environment. All of the functional areas of organisations have been impacted by the ability of organisations to collect and use large volumes of diverse data. In the analytics focussed modules students will study the nature of data use alongside the ways in which this interfaces with the strategic, operational and ethical challenges faced by organisations.

## 4. Aims of the programme

The broad aims of the programme are to enable you to:

- Study accounting as a specialised international professional discipline.
- Develop knowledge and understanding about the design, operation and validation of a wide range of essential accounting and analytic practices across a range of business types including the public and not for profit sector.
- Develop critical understanding of the impact accountants have on a range of industries, and how this value-added role needs constant awareness of the economic environment and technology developments.
- Appraise the ethical responsibilities of those working with financial and other data and the individual country and international regulation by which accountants are governed.
- Develop critical awareness of developments and current issues in accountancy and analytics, including their practical implementation in a global context.
- Have the capability to undertake and report on your own research using relevant accounting and analytic concepts, tools, and methods in a well-balanced and concise manner, exercising appropriate levels of scholarship.
- Demonstrate knowledge and skills that enable you to develop independence and self-confidence in your work and the ability to cooperate with others.
- Acquire a range of relevant key skills (such as communication, working with others, improving your own learning and performance and problem solving, professional software skills) in preparation for employment or further study.

## 5. What you will learn

The intended learning outcomes of the programme (what students should know, understand and be able to do at the end of the programme), can be described under the following headings:

- Subject knowledge and understanding
- Subject specific skills
- Key or transferable skills (including employability skills)

## **Subject knowledge and understanding**

Successful students will be able to:

1. Utilise a variety of accounting and analytic tools to analyse developments in the management and operations of organisations.
2. Demonstrate creativity to enable you to see the world in new and different ways, to challenge assumptions and orthodoxy in business.
3. Generate and apply original and imaginative use of data and financial information to develop solutions to problems within business, the economy and society.
4. Use quantitative analysis and accounting tools techniques to analyse data and produce outcomes beneficial to the organisation and society.
5. Utilise a variety of methods of communicating ideas in business including graphical, poster-based, and essay exposition.
6. Organise, present, and analyse data using appropriate software tools and communicate their results effectively to diverse user groups.
7. Apply logical reasoning based on knowledge of management to a variety of theoretical and applied topics and problems affecting organisations.

## **Subject specific skills**

Successful students will be able to:

1. Accurately prepare, read and interpret financial information (single and group companies) in line with required regulation.
2. Apply financial and other quantitative analysis to develop proposals and inform strategic and operational decisions.
3. Utilise a range of tools, including verbal, graphical, mathematical to manipulate, interpret and communicate accounting and other data.
4. Conduct critical analysis of accounting (and other relevant) methods and procedures.
5. Make non-trivial and independent use of professional software tools to manage, analyse and communicate quantitative data to specific and varied audiences.
6. Identify the ethical and professional challenges faced by accountants and analysts in the course of their duties.

## **Key or transferable skills (including employability skills)**

Successful students will be able to:

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| 1. Communicate using a variety of mediums to a range of audiences for specific purposes using, where appropriate, software tools to do this.   |
| 2. Work effectively both as an individual and as part of a group or a team, recognising and respecting the viewpoints of others and developing understanding and awareness of leadership styles and their impacts upon projects. |
| 3. Work effectively with information technology, literature searches and library resources.  |
| 4. Demonstrate effective skills in problem-solving.  |
| 5. Demonstrate and sustain effective approaches to learning and study, including time management, flexibility, creativity, intellectual integrity and professional management skills   |

## Keele Graduate Attributes

The Keele Graduate Attributes are the qualities (skills, values and mindsets) which you will have the opportunity to develop during your time at Keele through both the formal curriculum and also through co- and extra-curricular activities (e.g., work experience, and engagement with the wider University community such as acting as ambassadors, volunteering, peer mentoring, student representation, membership and leadership of clubs and societies). Our Graduate Attributes consist of four themes: **academic expertise, professional skills, personal effectiveness, and social, environmental and ethical responsibility**. You will have opportunities to engage actively with the range of attributes throughout your time at Keele: through your academic studies, through self-assessing your own strengths, weaknesses, and development needs, and by setting personal development goals. You will have opportunities to discuss your progress in developing graduate attributes with, for example, Academic Mentors, to prepare for your future career and lives beyond Keele.

## 6. How is the programme taught?

Learning and teaching methods used on the programme vary according to the subject matter and level of the module. They include the following:

- Lectures accompanied by suggested reading for independent study, intended to provide a core framework of subject knowledge on which a systematic understanding of major principles can be built. Some lecture classes may feature activities such as mock auctions, quizzes that involve voting, or other interactive activities.
- Tutor-led seminars where students contribute to or lead a discussion on key topics or make a presentation on a specific point so as to develop critical thinking and permit the reflective individual expression of that core understanding.
- Problem-based tutorials (often based on scenarios rooted in the real world) in which students are expected to offer answers or solutions to previously provided problems but which also offer opportunity for students to direct specific questions to tutors and develop better understanding of the issues in question. These tutorials enable students to acquire and refine key accounting skills
- Practical, computer laboratory based classes where students acquire the hands-on skills associated with describing, analysing and interpreting business data using relevant software tools such as SQL, Tableau and Excel.
- Directed independent study where students are referred to specific materials or asked to research and find information independently, which may extend to undertaking an independent research project under the supervision of an experienced tutor.
- Students may undertake web-based self-study exercises using the University's virtual learning environment (KLE). The KLE gives students easy access to a wide range of resources and research tools and permits the use of online discussion, quizzes and 'blogs' in teaching and learning whilst permitting students to develop improved IT knowledge. In addition students may be directed to online learning for software tools provided by software suppliers or using LinkedIn Learning content.

Apart from these formal activities, students are also provided with regular opportunities to talk through particular areas of difficulty, and any special learning needs they may have, with their Academic Mentors or module lecturers on a one-to-one basis.

## 7. Teaching Staff

Keele Business School comprises subject expertise in Management, International Business, HRM, Marketing, Finance, Economics and Accounting - professors, readers, senior lecturers, lecturers, and teaching fellows. Most staff members have teaching qualifications and those that do not are actively working to attain them. Most staff have PhD qualifications and a number have professional qualifications. All members of staff seek to ensure that module content represents up to date standards and legislation and reflects current relevant research, including the results of their own research. The school maintains a strong commitment to excellence and innovation in

teaching and research. Teaching is informed by research with teaching staff presenting and publishing academic papers at national and international conferences, in books and in internationally ranked journals. The University will attempt to minimise changes to our core teaching teams, however, delivery of the programme depends on having a sufficient number of staff with the relevant expertise to ensure that the programme is taught to the appropriate academic standard. Staff turnover, for example where key members of staff leave, fall ill, or go on research leave, may result in changes to the programme's content. The University will endeavour to ensure that any impact on students is limited if such changes occur.

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## **8. What is the structure of the Programme?**

The academic year runs from September to June and is divided into two semesters. The number of weeks of teaching will vary from programme to programme, but you can generally expect to attend scheduled teaching sessions between the end of September and mid-December, and from mid-January to the end of April. Our degree courses are organised into modules. Each module is usually a self-contained unit of study and each is usually assessed separately with the award of credits on the basis of 1 credit = 10 hours of student effort. An outline of the structure of the programme is provided in the tables below.

There are two types of module delivered as part of your programme. They are:

- Compulsory modules - a module that you are required to study on this course;
- Optional modules - these allow you some limited choice of what to study from a list of modules.

### **Global Challenge Pathways**

This programme includes the option for you to take a Global Challenge Pathway. These modules offer you an exciting opportunity to work with students and staff from different disciplines to explore topical global issues such as power and conflict, health inequalities, climate change, generative AI, social justice, global citizenship, and enterprise from different perspectives.

Global Challenge Pathways can either be taken as one 15-credit module at Levels 4, 5 and 6, or one 15-credit module at Levels 5 and 6. For more information about our Global Challenge Pathways please visit:

<https://www.keele.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/globalchallengepathways/>

### **Modern Languages or Certificate in TESOL**

Alternatively, you could choose to study modules with the University Language Centre. The Language Centre offers three pathways; The Language Specialist, The Language Taster, and The Trinity Certificate in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Language (TESOL). Language Centre modules are available separately for students at Levels 4 and 5. At Level 6 they are included within the Global Challenge Pathways.

If you choose the Language Specialist pathway, you will automatically be enrolled on a Semester 2 Modern Language module as a continuation of your language of choice. Undertaking a Modern Languages module in Semester 2 is compulsory if you wish to continue to the Language Specialist Global Challenge Pathway the following academic year.

For more information about Language Centre option modules available to you please visit the following webpages.

For Level 4 and 5 students please visit: <https://www.keele.ac.uk/study/languagecentre/languagecentreoptions/>

For Level 6 students please visit: <https://www.keele.ac.uk/students/academiclife/global-challenge-pathways/>

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For further information on the content of modules currently offered, please visit:

<https://www.keele.ac.uk/recordsandexams/modulecatalogue/>

A summary of the credit requirements per year is as follows.

Year	Compulsory	Optional	
		Min	Max
Level 6	75	45	45

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## Module Lists

### Level 6

Compulsory modules	Module Code	Credits	Period
Advanced Financial Reporting	MAN-30041	15	Semester 1
Management Accounting	MAN-30045	15	Semester 1
Advanced Data Visualisation	MAN-30119	15	Semester 1
The Audit Framework (30 credits)	MAN-30091	30	Semester 2

Optional modules	Module Code	Credits	Period
Advanced Business English Communication	ENL-90005	15	Semester 1
Academic English for Business Students (2)	ENL-90004	15	Semester 1-2
Data Analysis - ISP	ECO-30051	15	Semester 2
Advanced Management Accounting	MAN-30046	15	Semester 2
Analysing Company Performance ISP	MAN-30064	15	Semester 2
Business Ethics	MAN-30121	15	Semester 2

### Level 6 Module Rules

ENL-90005/ENL-90004: Open only to non-native speakers of English on successful completion of AEB2 or EAP4 or EAP3 with a score of over 60%; or equivalent. Cannot be taken with other ENL-module (English Language module) in the same academic year.

Students must take one of the following modules:  
 MAN-30064 Analysing Company Performance (ISP)  
 ECO-30051 Data Analysis (ISP)

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## Learning Outcomes

The table below sets out what students learn in the programme and the modules in which that learning takes place. Details of how learning outcomes are assessed through these modules can be found in module specifications.

<b>Subject Knowledge and Understanding</b>	
<b>Learning Outcome</b>	<b>Module in which this is delivered</b>
Utilise a variety of accounting and analytic tools to analyse developments in the management and operations of organisations.	Management Accounting - MAN-30045 Advanced Management Accounting - MAN-30046
Generate and apply original and imaginative use of data and financial information to develop solutions to problems within business, the economy and society.	Data Analysis - ISP - ECO-30051 Analysing Company Performance ISP - MAN-30064 Advanced Data Visualisation - MAN-30119
Utilise a variety of methods of communicating ideas in business including graphical, poster-based, and essay exposition.	Advanced Data Visualisation - MAN-30119
Organise, present, and analyse data using appropriate software tools and communicate their results effectively to diverse user groups.	Advanced Data Visualisation - MAN-30119
Apply logical reasoning based on knowledge of management to a variety of theoretical and applied topics and problems affecting organisations.	Advanced Management Accounting - MAN-30046 The Audit Framework (30 credits) - MAN-30091

<b>Subject Specific Skills</b>	
<b>Learning Outcome</b>	<b>Module in which this is delivered</b>
Accurately prepare, read, and interpret financial information (single and group companies) in line with required regulation.	Advanced Financial Reporting - MAN-30041 Analysing Company Performance ISP - MAN-30064
Apply financial and other quantitative analysis to develop proposals and inform strategic and operational decisions.	Management Accounting - MAN-30045 Advanced Management Accounting - MAN-30046
Utilise a range of tools, including verbal, graphical, mathematical to manipulate, interpret and communicate accounting and other data.	Advanced Data Visualisation - MAN-30119
Conduct critical analysis of accounting (and other relevant) methods and procedures.	Advanced Financial Reporting - MAN-30041 Advanced Management Accounting - MAN-30046
Make non-trivial and independent use of professional software tools to manage, analyse and communicate quantitative data to specific and varied audiences.	Advanced Data Visualisation - MAN-30119
Identify the ethical and professional challenges faced by accountants and analysts in the course of their duties.	The Audit Framework (30 credits) - MAN-30091

<b>Key or Transferable Skills (graduate attributes)</b>	
<b>Learning Outcome</b>	<b>Module in which this is delivered</b>
Communicate using a variety of mediums to a range of audiences for specific purposes using, where appropriate, software tools to do this.	Data Analysis - ISP - ECO-30051 Analysing Company Performance ISP - MAN-30064
Work effectively both as an individual and as part of a group or a team, recognising and respecting the viewpoints of others and developing understanding and awareness of leadership styles and their impacts upon projects.	Modules with group based assessments
Work effectively with information technology, literature searches and library resources.	Data Analysis - ISP - ECO-30051 Analysing Company Performance ISP - MAN-30064
Demonstrate effective skills in problem-solving.	Advanced Management Accounting - MAN-30046 Advanced Data Visualisation - MAN-30119
Demonstrate and sustain effective approaches to learning and study, including time management, flexibility, creativity, intellectual integrity, and professional management skills	Data Analysis - ISP - ECO-30051 Analysing Company Performance ISP - MAN-30064

## 9. Final and intermediate awards

Credits required for each level of academic award are as follows:

<b>Honours Degree</b>		You will require at least 120 credits at levels 4, 5 and 6
<b>BSc (Hons) Accounting with Business Analytics</b>	360 credits	You must accumulate at least 270 credits in your main subject (out of 360 credits overall), with at least 90 credits in each of the three years of study, to graduate with a named single honours degree in this subject.
<b>Diploma in Higher Education</b>	240 credits	You will require at least 120 credits at level 4 or higher and at least 120 credits at level 5 or higher
<b>Certificate in Higher Education</b>	120 credits	You will require at least 120 credits at level 4 or higher

**Work Placement Year option:** in addition to the above students must pass a non-credit bearing module covering the work placement year in order to graduate with a named degree including the 'with Work Placement Year' wording. Students who do not complete, or fail the work placement year, will be transferred to the three-year version of the programme.

**Entrepreneurship Year option:** in addition to the above students must pass a module covering the entrepreneurship year in order to graduate with a named degree including the 'entrepreneurship year' wording. Students who do not complete, or fail the entrepreneurship year, will be transferred to the three-year version of the programme.

## 10. How is the Programme Assessed?

The wide variety of assessment methods used on this programme at Keele reflects the broad range of knowledge and skills that are developed as you progress through the degree programme. Teaching staff pay particular attention to specifying clear assessment criteria and providing timely, regular and constructive feedback that helps to clarify things you did not understand and helps you to improve your performance. The

following list is representative of the variety of assessment methods used on your programme:

- Technical portfolio of analytics work with reflective commentary
- Academic essays
- Project reports
- Business case studies
- Completed analytic project
- Group projects and reports or presentations

Marks are awarded for summative assessments designed to assess your achievement of learning outcomes. You will also be assessed formatively to enable you to monitor your own progress and to assist staff in identifying and addressing any specific learning needs. Feedback, including guidance on how you can improve the quality of your work, is also provided on all summative assessments within three working weeks of submission, unless there are compelling circumstances that make this impossible, and more informally in the course of tutorial and seminar discussions.

## 11. Contact Time and Expected Workload

This contact time measure is intended to provide you with an indication of the type of activity you are likely to undertake during this programme. The data is compiled based on module choices and learning patterns of students on similar programmes in previous years. Every effort is made to ensure this data is a realistic representation of what you are likely to experience, but changes to programmes, teaching methods and assessment methods mean this data is representative and not specific.

Undergraduate courses at Keele contain an element of module choice; therefore, individual students will experience a different mix of contact time and assessment types dependent upon their own individual choice of modules. The figures below are an example of activities that a student may expect on your chosen course by year stage of study. Contact time includes scheduled activities such as: lecture, seminar, tutorial, project supervision, demonstration, practical classes and labs, supervised time in labs/workshop, fieldwork and external visits. The figures are based on 1,200 hours of student effort each year for full-time students.

### Activity

	<b>Scheduled learning and teaching activities</b>	<b>Guided independent Study</b>	<b>Placements</b>
<b>Year 1 (Level 4)</b>	16.5%	83.5%	0%
<b>Year 2 (Level 5)</b>	16.5%	83.5%	0%
<b>Year 3 (Level 6)</b>	16%	84%	0%

## 12. Accreditation

This programme is not yet accredited.

An application for accreditation from a range of professional accounting bodies is intended for this programme.

- Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA)
- Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA)
- The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, Associate Chartered Accountant (ACA)
- Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA)

The awarding of exemptions is at the discretion of the respective accounting professional body. However we would, for example, expect students to be exempted from modules of the Foundation, Applied Skills and Applied Knowledge of the ACCA professional qualification. Exact exemptions granted may vary depending on optional modules taken.

There are various exception rules for example a module must be passed and not condoned to claim an exemption and if not all modules are passed then exemptions may be reduced.

In addition, students will be encouraged to use their learning to go on to undertake certification in the use of software tools or methodologies. Examples might be the Tableau Desktop Practitioner or the Microsoft Excel Associate certifications. There is no cost associated with these additional certifications, but students will need to

commit additional time to undertake the study necessary to take the certification tests.

### 13. University Regulations

The University Regulations form the framework for learning, teaching and assessment and other aspects of the student experience. Further information about the University Regulations can be found at:

<http://www.keele.ac.uk/student-agreement/>

If this programme has any exemptions, variations or additions to the University Regulations these will be detailed in an Annex at the end of this document titled 'Programme-specific regulations'.

### 14. What are the typical admission requirements for the Programme?

See the relevant course page on the website for the admission requirements relevant to this programme:

<https://www.keele.ac.uk/study/>

Applicants who are not currently undertaking any formal study or who have been out of formal education for more than 3 years and are not qualified to A-level or BTEC standard may be offered entry to the University's Foundation Year Programme.

Applicants for whom English is not a first language must provide evidence of a recognised qualification in English language. The minimum score for entry to the Programme is Academic IELTS 6.0 or equivalent.

#### English for Academic Purposes

Please note: All new international students entering the university will provide a sample of Academic English during their registration. Using this sample, the Language Centre may allocate you to an English language module which will become compulsory. This will replace any GCP modules. *NB:* students can take an EAP module only with the approval of the English Language Programme Director and are not able to take any other Language modules in the same academic year.

English Language Modules at Level 4:

- Business - ENL-90003 Academic English for Business Students (Part 1); ENL-90004 Academic English for Business Students (2)
- Science - ENL-90013 Academic English for Science Students
- General - ENL-90006 English for Academic Purposes 2; ENL-90001 English for Academic Purposes 3; ENL-90002 English for Academic Purposes 4

English Language Modules at Level 5:

- Business - ENL-90003 Academic English for Business Students (Part 1); ENL-90004 Academic English for Business Students (2)
- Science - ENL-90013 Academic English for Science Students
- General - ENL-90006 English for Academic Purposes 2; ENL-90001 English for Academic Purposes 3; ENL-90002 English for Academic Purposes 4

English Language Modules at Level 6:

- Business - ENL-90003 Academic English for Business Students (Part 1); ENL-90004 Academic English for Business Students (2); ENL-90005 Advanced Business English Communication
- Science - ENL-90013 Academic English for Science Students
- General - ENL-90006 English for Academic Purposes 2; ENL-90001 English for Academic Purposes 3; ENL-90002 English for Academic Purposes 4

**Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)** is considered on a case-by-case basis and those interested should contact the Programme Director. The University's guidelines on this can be found here:

<https://www.keele.ac.uk/qa/programmesandmodules/recognitionofpriorlearning/>

### 15. How are students supported on the programme?

Support for student learning on the Programme is provided in the following ways:

- Module tutors are responsible for providing support for learning on the modules. They also give individual feedback on module assessments and more general feedback on examinations.
- Every student is allocated to an Academic Mentor who is responsible for reviewing and advising on students' academic progress. Academic Mentors also act as a first point of contact for students on non-academic issues that may affect their learning and can refer students on to a range of specialist health, welfare, and financial services co-ordinated by the University's Student Services.
- Student Voice Representatives - provide a focus for issues at module and year level to be raised.

- Students for whom English is not their first language are offered language classes, facilities, and services by the University's Language Centre. In addition to credit-bearing modules on English for academic study, students also have access to one-to-one tutorials for individual help and advice, and to a wealth of resources for self-study and practice.
- All members of teaching staff on the programme are available to see students during office hours, if available, and by appointment.

## 16. Learning Resources

Teaching takes place in a variety of lecture theatres and tutorial rooms all of which have appropriate audio visual equipment.

Copies of set texts are available online as an e-book and/or in the campus library, together with electronic access to a wide variety of relevant academic journals.

All modules make extensive use of the Keele Learning Environment meaning that students have access to detailed module materials (lecture notes, tutorial activities, journal articles, practice question banks and so on) anywhere and anytime that they have access to the internet.

For modules requiring access to a specific software platform (Bloomberg, Tableau, STATA) these will be provided to free of charge often under personal academic licences or as part of the Microsoft 365 licence.

Students will be guided in the use of online teaching resources provided by software providers such as Tableau. These resources are free for registered students. Alongside these resources are strong user communities offering discussion groups for sharing learning and asking questions. Use will also be made of LinkedIn Learning materials to further develop skills in analysis and the use of software tools.

## 17. Other Learning Opportunities

### Work Placement Year

Students have the opportunity to apply directly for the 4-year 'with Work Placement Year' degree programme or to transfer onto the 4-year degree programme at the end of Year-1 and in Year-2 at the end of Semester 1. Students who are initially registered for the 4-year degree programme may transfer onto the 3-year degree programme at any point in time, prior to undertaking their year-long placement. Eligibility rules are included in the Annex.

Students wishing to take the work placement year should meet with the Programme Director to obtain their signature to confirm agreement before they will be allowed to commence their placement.

International students who require a Tier 4 visa must check with the Immigration Compliance Team prior to commencing any form of placement.

A summary of the Work Placement Year, which is a potential option for students after completion of year 2 (Level 5), is provided in the Annex for the Work Placement Year.

### Entrepreneurship Year

Students have the opportunity to apply directly for the 4-year 'with Entrepreneurship Year' degree programme or to transfer onto the 4-year degree programme at the end of Year-1 and in Year-2 at the end of Semester 1. Students who are initially registered for the 4-year degree programme may transfer onto the 3-year degree programme at any point in time, prior to undertaking their Entrepreneurship Year. To be eligible for the Entrepreneurship year, students must have a good University attendance record. They must also demonstrate a viable new business idea and suitability to undertake entrepreneurial activity. This will be assessed during Year 2, through submission of a proposal, presentation, and interview.

Students who require a Study Visa to undertake the programme in the UK (including Tier 4) are not able to add in an Entrepreneurship Year due to UK Home Office (UKVI) restrictions. If a student has existing Immigration permission (Visa) to be in the UK, they may be able to carry out entrepreneurship activities depending upon the specific conditions of their visa category.

A summary of the Entrepreneurship Year, which is a potential option for students after completion of year 2 (Level 5), is provided in the Annex for the Entrepreneurship Year.

## 18. Additional Costs

### Work Placement Year costs

Students will be responsible for organising their own placement, with the support of the placement officer. This allows students to choose when and where to carry out their placement, taking into consideration the potential

living and travel expenses, for which they will be responsible. Students are encouraged to consider the potential costs incurred in carrying out the placement at the time of setting these up. Further guidance and support on these considerations is available from the Faculty Placement Officer. All placements need to be paid at least national minimum wage so students will receive an income. During their placement year students only pay 20% of their normal tuition fee. Whilst on placement they are still recognised as a full-time student and therefore have access to all benefits such as council tax reduction and discounts on travel for example. Students who will require an extension to their visa will also incur costs, but this will be dependent on visa status and country. There are no specific additional costs to the programme (e.g. field trips, equipment)

These costs have been forecast by the University as accurately as possible but may be subject to change as a result of factors outside of our control (for example, increase in costs for external services). Forecast costs are reviewed on an annual basis to ensure they remain representative. Where additional costs are in direct control of the University we will ensure increases do not exceed 5%.

As to be expected there will be additional costs for inter-library loans and potential overdue library fines, print and graduation. We do not anticipate any further costs for this programme.

## 19. Quality management and enhancement

The quality and standards of learning in this programme are subject to a continuous process of monitoring, review and enhancement.

- The School Education Committee is responsible for reviewing and monitoring quality management and enhancement procedures and activities across the School.
- Individual modules and the programme as a whole are reviewed and enhanced every year in the annual programme review which takes place at the end of the academic year.
- The programmes are run in accordance with the University's Quality Assurance procedures and are subject to periodic reviews under the Revalidation process.

Student evaluation of, and feedback on, the quality of learning on every module takes place every year using a variety of different methods:

- The results of student evaluations of all modules are reported to module leaders and reviewed by the Programme Committee as part of annual programme review.
- Findings related to the programme from the annual National Student Survey (NSS), and from regular surveys of the student experience conducted by the University, are subjected to careful analysis and a planned response at programme and School level.
- Feedback received from representatives of students in all three years of the programme is considered and acted on at regular meetings of the Student Staff Voice Committee.

The University appoints senior members of academic staff from other universities to act as external examiners on all programmes. They are responsible for:

- Approving examination questions
- Confirming all marks which contribute to a student's degree
- Reviewing and giving advice on the structure and content of the programme and assessment procedures

Information about current external examiner(s) can be found here:

<http://www.keele.ac.uk/qa/externalexaminers/currentexternalexaminers/>

## 20. The principles of programme design

The programme described in this document has been drawn up with reference to, and in accordance with the guidance set out in, the following documents:

a. UK Quality Code for Higher Education, Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education:

<http://www.qaa.ac.uk/quality-code>

b. QAA Subject Benchmark Statement (Business and Management, 2023):

<http://www.qaa.ac.uk/docs/qaa/subject-benchmark-statements/subject-benchmark-statement-business-and-management.pdf>

c. Keele University Regulations and Guidance for Students and Staff: <http://www.keele.ac.uk/regulations>

## 21. Annex - Work Placement Year

### BSc (Hons) Accounting with Business Analytics (with Work Placement Year)

<b>Work Placement Year summary</b>
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Students registered for this programme may either be admitted for or apply to transfer during their studies to the 'with Work Placement Year' option (NB: for Combined Honours students the rules relating to the work placement year in the subject where the placement is organised are to be followed). Students accepted onto this programme will have an extra year of study (the Work Placement Year) with a relevant placement provider after they have completed Year 2 (Level 5) at Keele.

Students who successfully complete both the second year (Level 5) and the Work Placement Year will be permitted to progress to Level 6. Students who fail to satisfactorily complete the Work Placement Year will normally revert to the 3-year programme and progress to Level 6 on that basis. The failure will be recorded on the student's final transcript.

Study at Level 4, Level 5 and Level 6 will be as per the main body of this document. The additional detail contained in this annex will pertain solely to students registered for the Work Placement Year option.

### **Work Placement Year Programme Aims**

In addition to the programme aims specified in the main body of this document, the Work Placement Year aims to provide students with:

1. The opportunity to carry out a long-term placement based learning experience (minimum 30 weeks equivalent of full-time work) between Years 2 and 3 (Levels 5 and 6) of their degree programme.

### **Entry Requirements for the Work Placement Year**

Admission to the Work Placement Year is subject to successful application, interview and references from appropriate staff. Students have the opportunity to apply directly for the 4-year 'with work placement year' degree programme, or to transfer onto the 4-year programme at the end of Year-1 and in Year-2 at the end of Semester 1. Students who are initially registered for the 4-year degree programme may transfer onto the 3-year degree programme at any point in time, prior to undertaking the year-long work placement. Students who fail to pass the work placement year, and those who fail to meet the minimum requirements of the work placement year module (minimum 30 weeks full time (1,050 hours), or equivalent, work placement), will be automatically transferred onto the 3-year degree programme.

The criteria to be applied are:

- A good University attendance record and be in 'good academic standing'.
- Academic Performance (an average of 50% across all modules in Semester 1 at Level 5 is normally required. Places on the Work Placement Year are then conditional on achieving an average mark of 50% across all Level 5 modules. Students with up to 15 credits of re-assessment who meet the 50% requirement may progress to the Work Placement Year. Where no Semester 1 marks have been awarded performance in 1st year marks and ongoing 2nd year assessments are taken into account)
- Students undertaking work placements will be expected to complete a Health and Safety checklist prior to commencing their work experience and will be required to satisfy the Health and Safety regulations of the company or organisation at which they are based.
- (*International students only*) Due to visa requirements, it is not possible for international students who require a Tier 4 Visa to apply for direct entry onto the 4-year with Work Placement Year degree programme. Students wishing to transfer onto this programme should discuss this with student support, the academic tutor for the work placement year, and the Programme Lead. Students should be aware that there are visa implications for this transfer, and it is the student's responsibility to complete any and all necessary processes to be eligible for this programme. There may be additional costs, including applying for a new Visa from outside of the UK for international students associated with a transfer to the work placement programme.

Students may not register for both an International Year and a Work Placement Year.

### **Student Support**

Students will be supported whilst on the Work Placement Year via the following methods:

- Regular contact between the student and a named member of staff who will be assigned to the student as their University supervisor. The University supervisor will be in regular contact with the student throughout the year, and be on hand to provide advice (pastoral or academic) and liaise with the Placement supervisor on the student's behalf if required.
- Two formal contacts with the student during the placement year: the University supervisor will visit the student in their placement organization at around 5 weeks after the placement has commenced, and then visit again (or conduct a telephone/video call tutorial) at around 15 weeks into the placement.
- Weekly supervision sessions will take place with the placement supervisor (or his/her nominee) throughout the duration of the placement.

### **Learning Outcomes**

In addition to the learning outcomes specified in the main text of the Programme Specification, students who complete the 'with Work Placement Year' option will be able to:

1. Evaluate their own employability skills (via a SWOT Analysis) together with an analysis of sector skill demands to create Intended Placement Outcomes in order to develop the skill areas which they have identified as being weak or needing further enhancement. Develop, through practice on placement, the employment-related skills identified through their SWOT analysis and Intended Learning Outcomes. Reflect on and apply academic themes, concepts and theory as explored at Level 4 and Level 5 to complex real situations on work placement. Reflect on and critically evaluate their learning from the work placement and previous learning. Explain how their chosen professional or placement sector operates and what skills are needed to develop their career.

These learning outcomes will be assessed through the non-credit bearing Work Placement Year module (MAN-30068) which involves:

1. the submission of two portfolios of evidence, one at the beginning of the placement (usually after six weeks into the placement) and one at the end of the placement and before the start of their final year of undergraduate studies.

### **Regulations**

Students registered for the 'with Work Placement Year' option are subject to programme-specific regulations (if any) and the University regulations. In addition, during the Work Placement Year, the following regulations will apply:

- Students undertaking the Work Placement Year must successfully complete the zero-credit rated 'Work Placement Year' module (MAN-30068)
- In order to ensure a high quality placement experience, each placement agency will sign up to a placement contract (analogous to a service level agreement).
- Once a student has been accepted by a placement organisation, the student will make a pre-placement visit and a member of staff identified within the placement contract will be assigned as the placement supervisor. The placement supervisor will be responsible for ensuring that the placement experience meets the agreed contract agreed with the University.
- The placement student will also sign up an agreement outlining his/her responsibilities in relation to the requirements of each organisation.

Students will be expected to behave professionally in terms of:

(i) conforming to the work practices of the organisation; and

(ii) remembering that they are representatives of the University and their actions will reflect on the School and have an impact on that organisation's willingness (or otherwise) to remain engaged with the placement.

### **Additional costs for the Work Placement Year**

Tuition fees for students on the Work Placement Year will be charged at 20% of the annual tuition fees for that year of study, as set out in Section 1. The Work Placement Year can be included in your Student Finance allocation; to find out more about your personal eligibility see: [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)

Students will have to bear the costs of travelling to and from their placement provider, accommodation, food and personal costs. Depending on the placement provider additional costs may include parking permits, travel and transport, suitable clothing, DBS checks, and compulsory health checks.

A small stipend may be available to students from the placement provider during the placement but this will need to be explored on a placement-by-placement basis as some organisations, such as charities, may not have any extra money available. Students should budget with the assumption that their placement will be unpaid.

Eligibility for student finance will depend on the type of placement and whether it is paid or not. If it is paid, this is likely to affect student finance eligibility, however if it is voluntary and therefore unpaid, should not affect student finance eligibility. Students are required to confirm eligibility with their student finance provider.

International students who require a Tier 4 visa should check with the Immigration Compliance team prior to commencing any type of paid placement to ensure that they are not contravening their visa requirements.

## 22. Annex - Entrepreneurship Year

### BSc (Hons) Accounting with Business Analytics (with Entrepreneurship Year)

#### Entrepreneurship Year summary

Students registered for this programme may either be admitted for or apply to transfer during their studies to the 'with Entrepreneurship' option. Students accepted onto this programme will have an extra year of study (the Entrepreneurship Year) located within the Incubation Hub at Keele after they have completed Year 2 (Level 5) at Keele. Students who successfully complete both the second year (Level 5) and the Entrepreneurship Year will be permitted to progress to Level 6. Students who fail to satisfactorily complete the Entrepreneurship Year will normally revert to the 3-year programme and progress to Level 6 on that basis. The failure will be recorded on the student's final transcript. Study at Level 4, Level 5 and Level 6 will be as per the main body of this document. The additional detail contained in this annex will pertain solely to students registered for the Entrepreneurship Year option.

#### Entrepreneurship Year Programme Aims

In addition to the programme aims specified in the main body of this document, the Entrepreneurship Year aims to provide students with the opportunity to develop a business idea into a live enterprise project within Keele's incubator for a minimum of 30 weeks (full-time equivalent work) but can be longer with access to expertise from Entrepreneurs in Residence.

#### Entry Requirements for the Entrepreneurship Year

Students can apply directly for the 4-year 'with entrepreneurship year' degree programme, or to transfer onto the 4-year programme at the end of Year-1 and in Year-2 at the end of Semester 1. Students who are initially registered for the 4-year degree programme may transfer onto the 3-year degree programme at any point in time, prior to undertaking the entrepreneurship. Students who fail to pass the entrepreneurship year, and those who fail to meet the minimum requirements of the entrepreneurship year module (minimum 30 weeks full time (1,050 hours), or equivalent activity within the incubator), will be automatically transferred onto the 3-year degree programme. The criteria to be applied are:

- A good University attendance record and be in 'good academic standing'.
- A suitable business idea and demonstration of ability to benefit from time in the incubator, assessed through the submission of a proposal, presentation and interview during year 2.

Students who require a Study Visa to undertake the programme in the UK (including Tier 4) are not able to add in an Entrepreneurship Year due to UK Home Office (UKVI) restrictions. If a student has existing Immigration permission (Visa) to be in the UK, they may be able to carry out entrepreneurship activities depending upon the specific conditions of their visa category. Students may not register for Entrepreneurship Year if already enrolled on a Work Placement Year.

#### Student Support

Students will be supported whilst on the Entrepreneurship Year via the following methods. Students are supported throughout the year by the administrative lead and academic lead of the entrepreneurship module. There will also be a programme of support offered by the Entrepreneurs in Residence. Students also have access to various guides in terms of their assessment via KLE as well as the opportunity for 1-2-1 meetings with the academic lead to discuss their progress.

### **Learning Outcomes**

In addition to the learning outcomes specified in the main text of the Programme Specification, students who complete the 'Entrepreneurship Year' option will be able to: Create an innovative business venture and critically evaluate its potential viability Demonstrate understanding of the barriers to start-up enterprise growth and success Evaluate and apply a range of strategic decisions to maximise the viability of the start up Reflect on one's own entrepreneurial knowledge, skills, behaviour, and learning process These learning outcomes will be assessed through the non-credit bearing Entrepreneurship Year module (MAN-30075) which involves: The submission of a portfolio of evidence demonstrating the activities and learning taken place during the year and a detailed synopsis of how the business idea has progressed.

### **Regulations**

Students registered for the Entrepreneurship Year are subject to course specific regulations (if any) and the University regulations. In addition, during the Entrepreneurship Year, the following regulations will apply: Students undertaking the Entrepreneurship Year must successfully complete the zero-credit rated 'Entrepreneurship Year' module (MAN-30075) Students will be expected to behave professionally in terms of: (i) conforming to the work practices of the incubation hub

### **Additional costs for the Entrepreneurship Year**

Tuition fees for students on the Entrepreneurship Year will be charged at 20% of the annual tuition fees for that year of study, as set out in Section 1. The Entrepreneurship Year can be included in your Student Finance allocation; to find out more about your personal eligibility see: [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) Students will have to bear the costs of accommodation, food and personal costs.

## **Version History**

### **This document**

**Date Approved:** 10 April 2026

### ***What's Changed***

Version for 2026/27 at Level 6 (no changes)

### **Previous documents**

<b>Version No</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>Date Approved</b>	<b>Summary of and rationale for changes</b>
1.1	2024/25	TRACY CLEWLOW	05 March 2025	Module changes
1	2024/25	DAN HERBERT	31 May 2024	
1	2023/24	ANDREA WITHINGTON		