

Business Studies

Key Stage 4

The Business Studies course is exciting and innovative. It comprises a common enterprise-themed core, with a mixture of assessment styles to provide everyone with the opportunity to succeed, including written assessments and examinations.

The GCSE Business qualification encourages students to be inspired, and challenged, by following a broad, coherent and worthwhile course of study, as well as gaining an insight into various sectors.

Students will be encouraged to actively engage in the study of business and economics to develop as effective and independent students and as critical and reflective thinkers. The course focuses on local, national and global businesses, and looks at making informed judgements on business activities.

Students will be able to develop the vital practical and applicable skills required by today's employers which will be a huge benefit to them when they leave school to seek employment.

Business Studies is an exciting subject, which gives students the opportunity to learn new skills and develop a sound knowledge in Business, with unit topics including Marketing, Effective financial management and putting a business idea into practice, to name a few.

Students undertaking this subject will gain experience of how the business world operates with previous year groups visiting businesses including Colchester Zoo, Thorpe Park, McDonalds and Adventure Island to investigate, among other things, their functional areas; organization structure; marketing activities and business aims.

Course Content

The course is made up of the following three units:

- Unit One: Introduction to Small Business
- Unit Two: Investigating Small Business
- Unit Three: Building a Business

Completion of all units, leads to a GCSE qualification.

Syllabus Details

The examination board is EDEXCEL and the qualification is GCSE Business Studies.

Assessment

The course assessment is split as follows:

Unit 1: Externally assessed, written examination 45 minutes, multiple choice / objective test questions.
40 Marks (25%)

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Unit 2: Internally assessed under controlled conditions, research/investigation task, approximately two weeks of curriculum time.
40 Marks (25%)

Unit 3: Externally assessed, written examination, 1 hour 30 minutes, questions comprise of multiple-choice, short and extended answers, data response and scenario based questions.
90 Marks (50%)

Promoting Modern British Values

British Values underpin many aspects of the course that we deliver within the Business department. As such, these themes recur in many topics that we teach. Areas of democracy, governing of markets and distribution of wealth are fundamental topics which are covered within the course. As part of our GCSE Business Studies courses, both Business Law and Employment Law are covered to some depth as well as the importance of these laws in determining British liberties and freedoms. In our recruitment units, we analyse the impact of mutual respect, tolerance and equal opportunities when working with employees. Discussions and debates on how different ethnic groups and religious beliefs help contribute to the overall success of the global economy are regularly witnessed within business lessons, these are key to students understanding how every individual has a place in today's society.

Requirements

This is a challenging but very enjoyable course. Elements of the course require different skills e.g. literacy, numeracy, ICT, communication and creativity. Therefore this is a course that all students can succeed in with hard work and commitment.

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