

GCSE: Business

Course description

Knowledge of how and why businesses operate will be of great relevance to all young people, as they finish their education and enter the world of work. Businesses are part of our everyday lives, providing us with the products we need, communicating with us through advertising, providing employment and inventing new products and services that transform how we live. This course focuses on what businesses are and how they organise themselves to achieve their objectives.

This GCSE course:-

- Introduces students to issues concerning the setting up and running of a business.
- Encourages candidates to appreciate that businesses must operate within society and that this involves businesses engaging with a wide range of stakeholders who will hold differing perspectives.
- Provides candidates with an introduction to marketing
- Introduces candidate to the importance of finance within business
- Explores entrepreneurial skills and qualities, and the different factors that motivate people to create and run businesses.

Examination information

Externally examined- 100%

Theme 1: 50% written exam

Theme 2: 50% written exam

This course leads to an Edexcel GCSE in Business.

Skills

The following are skills within business contexts you would expect a student to develop during the course:

- practical skills – time management, personal organisation and action planning
- presentational skills – addressing audiences using a variety of media and forms
- personal skills – showing evidence of progression
- Interpersonal skills – communication and group work
- Cognitive skills – reflection and review of own and others' performances.

Teaching and learning

Theme 1 concentrates on the key business concepts, issues and skills involved in starting and running a small business. It provides a framework for students to explore core concepts through the lens of an entrepreneur setting up a business.

Theme 2 examines how a business develops beyond the start-up phase. It focuses on the key business concepts, issues and decisions used to grow a business, with emphasis on aspects of marketing, operations, finance and human resources. Theme 2 also considers the impact of the wider world on the decisions a business makes as it grows.

In theme 1 and 2, students will be introduced to local and national business contexts and will develop an understanding of how these contexts impact business behaviour and decisions.

Students must draw on their knowledge and understanding of Theme 1 and 2 topics to apply a range of quantitative skills relevant to business contexts. This includes calculations and the interpretation, use and limitation of quantitative and qualitative data in business contexts to support, inform and justify business decisions.

Progression to further education

Business Studies or Economics at GCE A Level in the Sixth Form.
Students may then follow a Business based Degree courses at University.

For further information please see:

Miss R Lamb (Subject leader)

Careers

Accountant
Entrepreneur
Retailer
Recruitment Consultant
Human Resource Manager
Marketing Manager
Market Research Analyst
Sales Assistant
Customer Services
Business Management
Production Manager
Business Analyst