

Welcome to the Business Studies department!

Head of Department: Miss A Willett

Subject Teacher: Mr A Pitchfork

Subject Overview

Key Stage 4 (Years 9-11)

In Year 9, students will complete a Foundation Year in Business Studies, covering some key topics from the GCSE curriculum as well as topics such as Personal Finance and Business Ethics. Students will learn in a combination of individual, pair and group work. Assessments will be at the end of every term in the form of a short test or a project.

In Year 10, students will officially start the new linear GCSE (9-1). There are 6 sections in total ranging including:

1. Business in the Real World
2. Influences on Business
3. Business Operations
4. Human Resources
5. Marketing
6. Finance

All parts of the course are externally examined at the end of Year 11. There will be two written exams for students to complete for the full GCSE.

Key Stage 5 (Years 12-13)

Year 12 students will be completing the new Linear A level for Business Studies. This means that all content will be assessed at the end of Year 13 in three exam papers. The subject content for Year 12 is as follows:

- What is a business?
- Managers, leadership and decision making.
- Decision making to improve marketing performance.
- Decision making to improve operational performance.
- Decision making to improve financial performance.
- Decision making to improve human resource performance.

For the full A level, all Year 12 knowledge is assessed in addition to the content below:

- Analysing the strategic position of a business (A-level only)
- Choosing strategic direction (A-level only)
- Strategic methods: how to pursue strategies (A-level only)
- Managing strategic change (A-level only)

Examinations:

Year 11: two written papers

Paper 1

90 marks

1 hour 45 minutes

Tests knowledge on Business in the Real World, Influences on Business, Business Operations and Human Resources.

Paper 2

90 marks

1 hour 45 minutes

Tests knowledge on Business in the Real World, Influences on Business, Marketing and Finance.

Year 13: three written papers

Paper 1

100 marks

All content assessed

Section A: Multiple Choice Questions (worth 15 marks)

Section B: Short answers (worth 35 marks)

Section C: Essay answers (choice of one from two, and one from two) [25 marks each]

Paper 2

2 hours

100 marks

All content assessed

Three compulsory data response questions (worth roughly 33 marks each)

Paper 3

2 hours

100 marks

One compulsory case study with six questions.