

Overview of Year 10 Business Studies Curriculum

The Business Studies Curriculum in Year 10 follows the AQA GCSE Business Studies specification, and also the OCR National Award in Business Studies.

In year 10, units covered include:

- Unit 1: *Setting up a Business*. This unit introduces candidates to issues concerning the setting up and operation of a business. It explores the activities of business and the reasons for success or failure.
Background information
- Unit 2: *Growing as a Business*. This unit builds upon the content of Unit 1, allowing candidates to study businesses as they grow, and the issues that expansion raises.

The subject content of this specification is designed to be contextual and inter-related, and attempts to match the way that real world business operates.

Pupils will be required to complete coursework, which constitutes 25% of the total marks. Coursework will consist of a single problem solving assignment of approximately 2000 words. Pupils will be expected to investigate and propose a solution to a business problem or hypothesis.

The OCR Level 2 Nationals in Business Studies has been developed to recognise candidates' skills, knowledge and understanding of business functions, environments and operations. It has been designed to accredit candidate's achievements in modern and practical ways that is relevant to the workplace.

In year 10, pupils will complete two compulsory units. These units include:

Unit 1: *Investigating Business*. This unit involves studying why and how companies operate in different ways, covering topics such as business aims, the various types of ownership, and organisational structure. Pupils also learn about the importance of location, and the influence of stakeholders.

- Unit 4: *Communications in business*. This unit involves studying practical business communication skills, both written and verbal. Topics include how to write memo, emails, reports, and how to create advertisements. Topics also include preparing and giving formal presentations and the impact of ICT on business communication.

Homework

Homework is set on a weekly basis and recorded in the Teacher Planner. The homework set will relate to the topic being taught and may include;

- Written responses to questions, data or worksheets.
- Investigative research.
- Projects including coursework.

Revision of subject content in preparation for unit tests.

Examinations/Key assessments

The policy of the department is that assessment should take place regularly and should be constructive. Assessment takes the following forms;

- Formative assessment is on going and designed to monitor performance and enable constant feedback to be given.
- Pupil self-assessment helps the pupil to evaluate their own progress and to set themselves short-term targets.

Summative assessment provides evidence of achievement at the end of unit tests. Unit tests will be marked in accordance to GCSE assessment criteria and should enable pupils to review and improve their performance.

How Parents can help

The department considers parents as a valuable resource to the school, and the closer the link between the department and parents, the greater the impact the department can have on pupils. The department encourages open communication with parents especially with regard to seeking parental support in dealing with concerns such as their child failing to produce homework or coursework tasks or regarding concerns over their lack of progress. During parents' consultation evenings, staff can explain coursework tasks to parents and indicate ways on how parents can monitor their child's progress. Parents can also help by checking that homework is recorded in their child's planner and completed on time to the best of their child's ability. Parents can also help by ensuring that their child has the required equipment for lessons.