



Business Studies



Key Stage 3



Key Stage 4

At GCSE , students follow the AQA Business Studies specification, which can be accessed from: <http://bit.ly/AQAGCSEBUS>

Students complete three units as part of this course, Unit 1: Setting up a Business, Unit 2 Growing as a Business and Unit 3 Investigating Businesses. Unit 1 is worth 40% of the total mark, Unit 2 is worth 35% of the total mark and Unit 3 is worth 25% of the total mark. In year 10, students are taught Unit 1, their journey into Year 11 leads them to completing Unit 2 and Unit 3. Units 1 and 2 are assessed through a formal examination at the end of Year 11. Unit 3 is assessed through a controlled assessment, where students are given specific amount of hours to conduct research into local businesses. They then write a report based on their findings.

Topics covered include: Business Aims and Objectives, Business Planning, Business Ownership, Business Location, Market research, Finance, Recruitment, Protecting through legislation, Marketing Mix, Profit and Loss Accounts and Cash Flow Forecast.

Key Stage 5

At A Level, students follow the AQA Business Studies specification. Specification is available at: <http://bit.ly/AQAGCEBUS>

The course is split into two parts, AS Level and A2 Level. At AS level, in year 12, students complete two units- Unit 1: Planning and Financing a business and Unit 2 Managing a Business, also known as BUSS 1 and BUSS2.

The first year gives an overview of the world of business, exploring the entrepreneurial journeys taken by many in accordance to relevant business theories: how to protect business ideas, transforming resources into goods and services, developing business plans, understanding markets, choosing the right legal structures, raising finance, locating a business, employing people, retaining employees, effective quality operations, working with suppliers and the marketing mix. During their transition into the A2 level, students complete two more units: Unit 3 Strategies for success and Unit 4 The Business Environment and Managing Change, also known as BUSS3 and BUSS4. BUSS3 comprises of: functional objectives, using financial data, using marketing objectives, selecting marketing strategies and operational strategies. As part of BUSS4, students are expected to use their research skills. where a theme will be provided by the exam board that students will research and journey into up until their examination. 50% of the BUSS4 paper is based on a pre release research topic, previous themes include: organisational culture and UK manufacturing. The other 50% of the paper covers change management.

For further information, please contact Mr. P. Bentley, Curriculum Leader