

Subject: Business

Teachers: P Bentley

Exam Board: AQA

NEWPORT GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL

KS5 CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

Curriculum Intent & Organisation

Business is a social science which examines the operation of businesses and companies. This A level course was chosen to provide an accessible path for students who wish to study business at university, those who wish to undertake a degree apprenticeship in a cognate discipline and for those who simply have an interest in the area. This course has a strong element of quantitative skills and will be good preparation for learners wishing to study either BA or BSc courses. The main focus of the course is qualitative, with much of the learning based around case studies of contemporary and historical business activity. This program of study is logically structured, beginning with an overview of the key functional areas of a firm, before moving on to examine strategic decision making and the external environment. This course will equip learners with a range of quantitative and qualitative skills that will be of use to them both in work and in life. Even those students not continuing on a path towards level 6 qualifications will find the ability to understand, for example, the economic environment, employment rights and consumer rights invaluable.

Examination Information

Option subject examined end of Year 13 by three two hour examination papers. Questions range from one mark multiple choice items to 25 mark extended writing items.
There is no coursework.

Facilitating Subject?

No

Impact of Prior Learning from KS4

Most students are unlikely to have studied this subject at Key Stage 4. Some concepts will have been acquired in other subjects. Consumer rights may have been examined in PHSE. GDP may have been covered in geography.

The assumption at the start of the course is that all learners are starting from a position of no subject knowledge and understanding of key concepts is built from the ground up.

Summer work prepares learners by giving them a grounding in recent developments in the business world. Students will identify businesses in which they are interested and prepare case studies, highlighting the ways in which their chosen businesses have been innovative. This will enable them to consider a range of issues that will inform discussions in the first weeks of the course.

Equipment Required for this course

- Standard classroom stationery
- Mathematical calculator
- Own lined paper
- Level arch file
- Student textbook
- Access to newspapers/magazines.

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Curriculum Implementation – Areas of Focus Year 12

Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Unit 1: What is business? Managing marketing and finance <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Business and Objectives- Forms of Business and Stakeholders- Marketing Management- Financial Management	Unit 2: Managing people and operations <ul style="list-style-type: none">- People Management- Operations Management	Unit 2: Managing people and operations <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Managing Business Culture

Curriculum Implementation – Areas of Focus Year 13

Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Unit 3: Business and society, business and the external environment, and business strategy <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Business and Society- Business and the external environment- Strategy	Unit 3: Business and society, business and the external environment, and business strategy <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Change.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Exam technique• Mock Examinations• Final Examinations

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Impact / Outcomes

Learning will be assessed throughout the course by:

- Regular formative assessments in lessons using mini whiteboards for activities such as hinge questions
- Multi-choice questions/quizzes
- File checks
- End of Topic tests
- Exam style questions in times conditions
- Mock examinations

Homework / Self Study

As well as formal homework being set, students are expected to do approximately 5-6 hours per week of extra study and reading around the subject outside of lessons. Formal homework will be set, including preparation for examination questions and essays.

Ways to support learning

Relevant reading is recommended to students and books are loaned regularly to those who wish to read around the subject. A stock of relevant magazines and textbooks is available for students to borrow in study periods. Quizlet sets are shared with students to help them revise for exams and topic tests. Essay competitions, such as Kings Cambridge Entrepreneurship Lab, are promoted to students in all three terms to incentivise reading around the subject and relevant further study.

Field Work / Extension / Enrichment Opportunities

Although the course does not directly require field work, there are numerous opportunities for enrichment and to examine business activity in the real world.

The Business Society, run by subject ambassadors has booked guest speaker sessions with local entrepreneurs. The university of Chester have run sessions on Entrepreneurialism and Finance. We have had talks on marketing and branding from leading manufacturers such as PPC&A and Mooveero. We have visited the head offices of Lyreco to investigate operations management. We run an annual visit to Manchester to visit the science and industry museum and the peoples history museum to learn about key part of the economic history of industrialisation and trade unionism.

Young Enterprise is a key enrichment program that sits adjacent to the business curriculum, giving students the chance to set up and run their own company for one year.

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Next Steps

Business is a subject which provides learners with a range of opportunities post sixth form. It provides a strong foundation for degrees in Business, as well as a range of cognate disciplines such as:

- Marketing
- Accounting
- Supply chain management
- Data analysis

The course is also good preparation for degree apprenticeships in such fields, and a growing number of students have progressed onto both pathways in recent years.

Business has relevance to a broad range of careers, including:

- Economics
- Teaching and research
- Business management
- Law
- Health service roles
- Civil Service roles

For more information, contact p.bentley@nghs.org.uk.