

GCSE (9-1) Business Subject Overview

The Appleton School.

Review September 2023



Subject: GCSE Business

Curriculum Intent (Covering Year 10 to 11)

Department Vision.

The Business department at The Appleton School aims to develop young business students and knowledgeable entrepreneurs. The course at GCSE level aims for students to understand key business concepts, business terminology, business objectives, the integrated nature of business activity and the impact of business on individuals and wider society. The planned and specialised delivery of the specification gives students the opportunity to explore real life business issues and how businesses work enabling them to utilise this knowledge in their next steps.

The specification for Business studies is broad but covers these main functional areas: Business in the real world, Influences on business, Business operations, Human resources, Marketing and Finance.

With a combination of teacher led delivery, independent research, teamwork, competition and presentation activities we aim to complement the employability skills that they are developing in other subject areas as well as prepare students for the everyday world of working within or running an organisation.

Students Vision.

- to develop you as young business students and knowledgeable potential future entrepreneurs
- to provide you with a key understanding of business terminology, concepts, objectives and the nature of business activity.
- to allow you to explore real life business issues and scenarios
- to provide you with an insight into how this subject is going to be useful in your chosen next steps in life
- to compliment your employability skills
- to prepare you for the everyday life of working for or running your own business

What are your aims linked to the curriculum (National Curriculum and Specification criteria)

The vision and aims of the GCSE Business department at the Appleton School has been influenced by the Purpose and Aims of the National Curriculum (DfE 2013) and the Edexcel Specifications that we follow at GCSE and A Level, which highlight areas that we feel particularly important in the 21st Century.

How is the curriculum delivered?

The Business curriculum is divided into two themed modules of work where each theme is completed on an academic yearly basis (At Key Stage 4). For example, theme 1 focuses on investigating small business but within that theme there is five topic areas. This is explained in greater depth on our scheme of work. The curriculum has been developed so that skills and knowledge are revisited continuously throughout Key Stage four until external examinations are completed and the students are fully prepared for their next steps in their education.

How is the curriculum assessed?

Assessments are completed at the end of the delivery of each topic where students key knowledge and skills that have been developed through the topic area are assessed through the completion of an end of topic test. At Ks4 we use the exam board grade boundaries along with assessments designed using exam wizard. All of the assessment data is collected on a departmental mark book and individualised teachers' data tracking system and will inform future teaching and learning. As well as these end of topic assessments, we also have feedback and mini assessments where students are given feedback on how to develop specific knowledge or skills and required to then respond by working on the question again or an extended stretch and challenge question. At key points throughout the academic year (determined by the school) mock examinations will take place. These examinations will test knowledge and skills across modules and assessed using examination mark schemes and grade boundaries (KS4). This data is recorded on the central school system (SIMS).

How is the curriculum enriched (through speakers/visits/clubs) to generate a love of learning?

The curriculum is enriched predominately through the application of real life links to Businesses within the UK and global economy. Students are encouraged to keep up with the news and teachers are expected to bring real life business examples into their lesson planning. External speakers come into the school during theme 1 focusing on providing students with an insight into setting up and running their own company as successful business entrepreneurs. We have a business and enterprise department that focuses on running business clubs such as young enterprise where business students are given the opportunity to be involved in their own business and products. This department also provides a business trip to New York.

What skills and knowledge do students bring with them from Key Stage 3 to Year 10?

Students first exposure to the subject of Business is through a fortnightly programme that is completed in year 9 and therefore they have limited skills and knowledge that they can bring with them into year 10. This programme has been designed to introduce the subject and provide the students with an idea as to what Business is about. Key concepts such as the marketing mix and finance are delivered and students use this understanding to apply it to the creation of their own business ideas. The course is an engaging and informative insight into this new subject and into the ks4 GCSE Business course.

What skills and knowledge do students bring with them from Year 10 to Year 11?

Within year 10 students will cover theme 1 of the Edexcel course. The knowledge and skills within this theme focuses, on 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. Quantitative skills are developed that are relevant to a range of business contexts where students use calculations and make interpretations of provided data. The assessment objectives are introduced to students where they will start to develop skills such as identifying, understanding, applying and analysing.

Within year 11, students will cover theme 2 within the Edexcel course. This theme 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. Students will be extremely confident on the following skills; identification, understanding, application, analysis and evaluation and a number of transferrable skills will also be obtained throughout this qualification such as cognitive, interpersonal and intrapersonal.

What skills and knowledge do students bring with them from Key Stage 4 to Key Stage 5?

Students can progress from this qualification to a number of different academic and vocational qualifications at Level 3, including GCEs in Business, History, Geography, Economics and Psychology and BTEC Nationals in Business. The knowledge and skills gained from GCSE Business support students' entry into employment or other training in specific aspects of business, such as apprenticeships and vocational qualifications which focus on more specialised business areas. GCSE Business provides a strong foundation for employment, with students progressing, with further training, to a wide range of careers training such as banking, sales, product management and general management.

What will students study?

This is a two year course where external examinations will be completed at the end of year 11. In year 10 students will cover theme 1 and in year 10 students will then predominately focus on theme 2. Exam question practice will be completed throughout the duration of the course in order to build examination skills and allow the application of theory. *For an in depth view on what the students will cover please see the GCSE scheme of work.*

Why has learning been sequenced in this way?

Year 10	Year 11
<p>Half Term 1</p> <p>All students will be focusing on the introduction to the course and will be starting with Theme 1. Students will begin with Theme 1.1 Enterprise and Entrepreneurship and gain a understanding of the introduction to the course. Once content has been covered students will have two assessments</p>	<p>All class teachers should be delivering Theme 1. Start at topic 2.2/2.3 and move through the topic areas to topic 2.5 - Complete end of topic tests at the end of the topic area. (With shared classes teachers will take a specific subtopic and divide the work equally)</p>

<p>to check progress of their knowledge. One multiple choice assessment to check understanding and a written assessment to check exam technique. Students will then progress on to Topic 1.2 Spotting a business opportunity. Written Exam undertaken to practice exam technique and check understanding.</p>	
<p>Half Term 2</p>	<p>Half Term 2</p>
<p>Continuation of Theme 1.2 with final multiple-choice assessment at the end of topic.</p> <p>Theme 1.3 Putting the business idea into practice to be started and make sure that all students build on prior knowledge from Year 9 where the concepts were introduced. Final Assessment for the topic additional written exam covering all content covered to date.</p>	<p>All class teachers should be delivering Theme 2. Start at topic 2.1 and move through the topic areas to topic 2.5 - Complete end of topic tests at the end of the topic area.</p>
<p>Christmas Holidays</p>	<p>Christmas Holidays</p>
<p>All teachers focus on final round up of Theme 1.3.</p> <p>Theme 1.4 Making the business effective to follow as above format. With course delivery by teachers and assessment completed and misconceptions covered.</p>	<p>All class teachers should be finishing delivering Theme 2. Students should have recall lessons linking back to prior knowledge of both previous Themes 1 + 2</p>

Half Term Holidays	
Cont. Theme 1.4	
<p>Start 1.5 Understanding external influences for a business. This is the final module in the first paper and all content has been covered and assessed.</p> <p>Teachers to focus on Exam technique to make sure that student know how to answer all the different formats of questions and understand command words that they need to know.</p>	<p>All class teachers should be revising Theme 1+2. Focus should be on Exam Technique and students should be able to answer questions on either Theme. Using past exam questions from previous papers and material for tutot2u and Pearson Edexcel.</p>
Spring Holiday	
<p>All year 10 teachers should be focusing this term on completing Theme 1 if they require the additional time.</p> <p>Complete Mock Exam Preparation lessons and focus on as many exam questions as possible and deliver exam technique.</p> <p>Now Theme 1 is completed teacher to start Theme 2. Please work from topic 2.1 onwards through to topic 2.5. Complete end of topic tests as you go. Focus for this half term should be topic</p>	<p>Focus on exam technique and past paper practice Questions (Use the Tutor2U exam papers on the R drive under the GCSE Business 9-1 Specification folder).</p> <p style="text-align: center;">EXAM DATE: 18/05/2023</p>
Half Term Holiday	
<p>Theme 2. Please work from topic 2.1 onwards through to topic 2.5. Complete end of topic tests as you go. Focus for this half term should be topic</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Focus should be 2.1/2.2</p>	<p>Focus on exam technique and past paper practice Questions (Use the Tutor2U exam papers on the R drive under the GCSE Business 9-1 Specification folder).</p> <p style="text-align: center;">EXAM DATE: 12/06/2023 PM</p>

What cross-curricular themes have been identified?

The main cross curricular links that are present throughout this course are English, Mathematics and Economics. A number of written skills are required throughout the course when answering exam questions and quantitative skills are included through calculations and interpretations of data. There are topic areas throughout the qualification that have heavy focus on economical aspects such as the external environment, interest rates, exchange rates etc.

How will this be assessed to show that students have learnt and remembered what they have been taught?

Years	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
10	Module tests Written Assessment	Module tests Written Assessment	Module tests Written Assessment Exam Week
11	Module tests Written Assessment Exam Week 1	Module tests Written Assessment Exam Week 2	Module tests Written Assessment External Exams

What will students be expected to know and remember?

For an in depth view on what the students will be expected to know and remember in regards to knowledge and skills please see the GCSE scheme of work.