



Business Studies Learning Area

LEARNING AREA

The Business Studies Learning Area uses the Business Learning Base and Independent Learning Centres which are equipped with interactive smartboards and computers, or study rooms which all have interactive whiteboards.

The Business Studies Learning Area has a creative, dynamic and vibrant team. As a result, the subject area is consistently popular with students at both Key Stages 4 and 5.

STAFFING

Currently six teachers work within the Business Studies Department. Responsibility within the department is under the Head of Business and overseen by a Deputy Head.

EXAMINATION RESULTS

Traditionally, Key Stage 4 results have exceeded national averages with 90% of students achieving grade 4 or equivalent across both qualifications. In 2023 all students took Edexcel GCSE Business Studies where 47% achieved grade 4 or above.

For Key Stage 5 in 2023 we had 32% at A*-B for the A level, following the AQA syllabus. Key Stage 5 Business has traditionally had one of the best value added of all departments. Key Stage 5 Economics also follows the AQA syllabus and 40% of students achieved A*-B grades. There was also a 100% pass rate for the BTEC National in Business Extended Certificate and Diploma, with 76% of students achieving a merit or above. Results for students completing the Level 2 Foundation Certificate in Accounting were 67% at merit and above and 50% of those completing the Level 3 Advanced Diploma in Accounting attained a merit. 100% of the first cohort of students sitting the T-Level in Management & Administration passed their core exams.



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TEACHING AND LEARNING

At Key Stage 4, the Learning Area group students from Year 10 to take account of their ability and learning approach. This allows students the opportunity to be assessed by a method that enables them to achieve their target potential with an appropriate level of support. There are two parallel bands of groups in Years 11 and 10.

This approach to understanding our students' needs continues at Key Stage 5 where students are directed towards the course that is most suited to their prior attainment and ability. Currently we have one group per year studying one or a combination of the courses we offer

Key Stage 4

At Key Stage 4 students study either Edexcel GCSE Business Studies or OCR National Enterprise. Both courses look at enterprise skills, different types of business, finance, recruitment and training and how businesses grow from start-up to multi-national corporations.

Key Stage 5

In the Sixth Form students study either the AQA AGCE Business Studies, BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Business, or City & Guilds T-Level in Management and Administration. Students take an in-depth look at how businesses are structured, their purpose and success, personal and business finance, recruitment and marketing. AQA AGCE Economics aims to give students an insight into the many difficult decisions that are made in society relating to crucial issues such as health care, education, interest rates and minimum wages. AAT Accounting qualifications help prepare students to either study this subject at university or prepares them to enter the profession via the apprenticeship route, having already attained Level 2 Certificate in Accounting.

ENRICHMENT

The Business Studies Learning Area offer a range of enterprise competitions to various year groups. All year groups benefit from a combination of industry visits or inspirational talks from industry experts to bring the subject alive. Businesses visited include Disneyland Paris, Cadbury World, and Alton Towers. AAT and T-Level students complete work placements as part of their qualifications.