



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

Key Stage 4 results in 2022 remained strong. 41% of GCSE Business students, following the Edexcel syllabus, achieved grades 7, exceeding national averages. 24% of students taking the Level 2 BTEC First in Business gained a merit or above. In both qualifications students have exceeded national averages for the previous few years.

For Key Stage 5 in 2022 we had 88% at A*-B for the A level, following the AQA syllabus. Key Stage 5 Business had one of the best value added of all departments, maintaining the pre-Covid performance. Key Stage 5 Economics also follows the AQA syllabus and 60% of students achieved A*-B grades, again showing added value in this qualification. There was also a 100% pass rate for the BTEC National in Business Extended Certificate, with 75% of students achieving a distinction or above. Results for students completing the Level 2 Foundation Certificate in Accounting were 67% at merit and above and 100% of those completing the Level 3 Advanced Diploma in Accounting attained a merit.



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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 there are double and single award groups of BTEC Business Studies, one group of A level, and one group of T-Level Management and Administration students. Students also have the opportunity to study Economics, following the AQA syllabus and AAT Level 2 and 3 Accounting qualifications.

Key Stage 4

At Key Stage 4 students study either GCSE Business Studies or OCR National Enterprise. From Year 10, students follow either the OCR National or GCSE programme according to their ability and learning style. 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 Nationals 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 or 3 Foundation Certificate or Advanced Diploma 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 Alton Towers, Morgan Motors, and Pizza Hut. AAT and T-Level students complete work placements as part of their qualifications.