

Course Outline

Students will follow the GCSE Business Studies Course from Edexcel. It gives budding young business men and women the opportunity to study aspects which underpin the fundamentals of owning, running or operating within a business. It enables students to use an enquiring and critical approach to distinguish facts and opinions, build arguments and form judgments to acquire entrepreneurial success. The course allows students to analyse what makes a successful business and use mathematics to calculate overheads, profits, breakeven points and make financial decisions

It also allows students to look at national and global businesses and what makes them successful as well as how different stakeholders interact with businesses. The course comprises **two units** as described below.

Unit 1 Investigating Small Businesses

The unit concentrates on the key business concepts, issues and skills involved in starting and running a small business. It allows students to explore core concepts through the lens of an entrepreneur setting up a business.

The key topic areas that will be looked at are:

- Enterprise and entrepreneurship
- Spotting a business opportunity
- Putting a business idea into practice
- Making a business effective
- Understanding external influences on business

Unit 2 Building a Business

This unit examines how a business develops after the initial start-up phase. It focuses on the decisions, business concepts and issues used to grow the business. Students will look at marketing, operations, HR and finance.

The key topic areas are:

- Growing the business
- Making marketing decisions
- Making financial decisions
- Making human resource decisions

Assessment

The Business Studies GCSE is assessed by **two** exams, each worth 50% of the qualification.

Unit 1 – A 90-minute examination, split into 3 sections. Where you will be required to calculate, explain and justify responses

Unit 2 – A 90-minute examination, split into 3 sections. Where you will be required to calculate, explain and justify responses

Progression/further study

Students have a range of options after GCSE for example A-Level Business, vocational courses, apprenticeships or work experience placements.