



Business Studies

GCSE

Teacher Contact: Mrs F Williams

Why study Business?

At Ellesmere Port Catholic High School, the Business Department endeavours to make our students' learning experience as real, applicable, relevant, varied and interesting as possible. Students are encouraged to learn real business case studies using local and national business news through a range of media platforms. The redesigned GCSE Business qualification provided

by Pearson Edexcel is engaging and inspiring. It reflects the demands of a truly modern and evolving business environment. Students will learn how entrepreneurs turn simple ideas into profitable businesses, as well as how companies operate and make important business decisions on a local, national and global scale.



What key knowledge, concepts and skills will I learn?

Choosing GCSE Business will help to develop many important skills, such as numeracy, literacy, problem solving, information collecting, as well as analytical, evaluative and social skills. Over the duration of the course the students will learn about key aspects of the world of business and consider their role within this area. Students will study many relevant and exciting topics including the business environment, enterprise, business activity, human resource management, finance, marketing and production systems. Students will learn how to investigate and analyse real business opportunities and issues to construct well-argued, well-evidenced, balanced and structured arguments, demonstrating their depth and breadth of understanding of business.

What qualities and attitudes are required to do well?

In Business lessons, our teachers will expect excellent listening and reading skills combined with good interpersonal qualities. A good standard of arithmetic is also beneficial as the course includes complex calculations with analysis and calculations

of financial budgets. Having the required literacy skills is also an advantage to succeed in the subject. This includes essay skills, writing critically and analytically.

In recent years, higher education institutions and employers have consistently flagged the need for students to develop a range of transferable skills to enable them to respond with confidence to the demands of undergraduate study and the world of work. Pupils must however demonstrate a strong interest in business studies, current affairs, news and politics. The ability to be self-motivated and to demonstrate excellent organisational skills are paramount. We expect our students to also have good intercultural sensitivity and self-discipline.

How will I be assessed?

Students are assessed every term and will be given examples of exam questions to practise their reading and writing skills. Knowledge checks are conducted on a regular basis to assess the progress of the learners. The GCSE assessment will consist of two separate written exams. Paper 1 (90 minutes) covers Theme 1 which includes five topics (enterprise, business opportunity, putting an idea into practice, how to make a business effective, external influences). Paper 2 (90 minutes) covers Theme 2 which includes five other topics (growing a business, marketing, operations, finance and HR). Each paper is worth 50% of the qualification final mark.

Which other subjects link into this course?

Related subjects include economics, law, accounting, maths, statistics, additional maths, government and politics, and psychology.

What career options are open to me?

The GCSE Business course builds on subject content which is typically taught at key stage 3 and provides a suitable foundation for the study of Business Studies at A level. Career options for pupils who qualified with a Business Studies qualification include: accountancy, advertising, banking, investment and financial services, general management, HR/personnel, management consultancy, public relations, retail management, sales and marketing.

For more information you might like to visit:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications>