

COURSE OUTLINE

GCSE Business Studies and Economics (exam board – Edexcel)

This course encourages students to become actively engaged in the study of businesses in a range of sectors, as well as developing an understanding of economic activities and related issues. Students will apply their knowledge, understanding and skills in a range of different contexts, including local, national and global. Students will appreciate how business activities can affect different stakeholders and why ethics and sustainability need to be taken into account when carrying out business and economic activity.

Students also develop a wide range of skills including problem solving, critical thinking, analysis and evaluation and also teamwork.

Term 1:

Unit 1: Introduction to Small Businesses

Students will build up their knowledge, understanding and confidence in how entrepreneurs set up and run small businesses.

Term 1/2:

Unit 2: Investigating Small Businesses

A Controlled Assessment involving research and writing up of the research. There is no additional material to cover for this topic as the content covered in Topic 1 is the same for Topic 2.

Term 2/3:

Unit 5: Introduction to Economics

Students are introduced to some key economic concepts and thinking that will help them understand some of the issues that the economy faces.

What you can do as a parent to support your child throughout this course

- Encourage your child to review his/her notes regularly and complete/submit homework on time.
- *Ask your child to explain the meaning of **key terms** on a regular basis and to give an example.*
- *Encourage your child to watch and listen to business news that is relevant to the topic being covered at that time.*

How students are assessed in GCSE Business Studies:

- Homework will be set pieces and marked with feedback and target(s) for improvement. Targets are linked to the appropriate Assessment Objectives (AOs) for this subject.
- **Self and peer assessment** is also encouraged.

Students mark each other's work and give feedback. This encourages students to evaluate work and set targets for themselves and others as independent learners.

When the key assessment points take place:

Mock exams for Unit 1 (January and May); Unit 5 (April/May)*

Units 1 and 5: External exams in the summer. Unit 2: October to January.

***How we use the assessment data:**

To assess students' understanding of the topic. To plan interventions to help students improve.

Marking and feedback policy – key points:

- Verbal and written feedback will be varied: whole class verbal feedback, individual verbal feedback, and written feedback.
- Written feedback will be given by staff on some pieces of work indicating “what went well” (WWW), and areas for improvement “even better if” (EBI).
- Students will be expected to respond to EBI comments and carry out the suggested improvements to their work.
- Spelling and grammar will be indicated on the script.