

## CURRICULUM SUBJECT: BUSINESS

### SUBJECT CONTACT: N KIERNAN

“Business opportunities are like buses. There’s always another one coming.”– Richard Branson

### CURRICULUM INTENT

Why is it important that pupils at Vale of York study Business?

*Studying Business at Vale of York Academy will give students a clear insight on how the working, professional world functions. Business is a subject that lends itself to students learning a wide range of important transferable skills. From the different topics covered, to the language that students will use, it is a tool to enable learners a head start into engaging with a future career post GCSE. Pupils will become skilled in making decisions, being creative, solving problems, understanding finance, analysing data and working as part of a team. They will not only gain business knowledge and understanding, but will gain the opportunity to put it into practice through a range of business activities and projects.*

*Whether you plan to work in a large multinational (like Nestle or Norwich Union), set up on your own or somewhere inbetween GCSE Business Studies is a great introduction to understanding the different roles and functions of a business.*

### CURRICULUM STATEMENT

At KS4: In AQA GCSE Business Studies, students will consider the practical application of business concepts through the learning of 6 units: Business in the real world; Influences on business; Business operations; Human Resources; Marketing; and Finance.

The AQA curriculum transitions well into those students wanting to continue the subject at KS5. The six units provide opportunities to explore theories and concepts in the most relevant way, through the context of events in the business and economic world.

## CURRICULUM SEQUENCE

### Key Stage 4:

	Year 10	Year 11
<b>Curriculum time</b>	<i>Business Studies - 5 hours a fortnight</i>	<i>Business Studies - 5 hours a fortnight</i>
<b>Curriculum framework</b>	<i>Business Studies - AQA - both papers are worth 50% and are 1 hour 45 mins in length;</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Paper 1 - Influences of operations and HRM on business activity</i></li> <li><i>Paper 2 - Influences of marketing and finance on business activity</i></li> </ul>	
<b>Core knowledge &amp; understanding covered</b>	<u><i>Business Studies</i></u> <i>Business in the real world</i> <i>Influences on business</i> <i>Human Resources</i>	<u><i>Business Studies</i></u> <i>Business Operations</i> <i>Marketing</i> <i>Finance</i>
<b>Subject specific skills</b>	<u><i>Business Studies</i></u> <i>Students will apply their knowledge and understanding to business decision making including:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>the interdependent nature of business activity, influences on business, business operations, finance, marketing and human resources, and how these interdependencies underpin business decision making</i></li> <li><i>how different business contexts affect business decisions</i></li> <li><i>the use and limitation of quantitative and qualitative data in making business decisions.</i></li> </ul>	
<b>Personal attributes evolved that support learning</b>	<i>Understanding different viewpoints and respecting differences of opinion</i> <i>Resilience</i> <i>Basic computer skills</i> <i>Revision and recall skills (independence, self-managers)</i> <i>Independent enquirers and problem solving</i> <i>Team work</i>	

	<p><i>Interpretation of real life case studies</i> <i>Numeracy - interpreting data, graphs etc</i></p>
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Refer to the Business Studies Learning journey for how the course is sequenced.

## CURRICULUM OPPORTUNITIES

	K4S
<b>Within the formal curriculum</b>	<p><i>In Year 10, students have the opportunity to visit a real life business to understand the daily workings of a professional arena.</i> <i>In Year 11, students have the opportunity, and are invited to partake in a video call, or in person, question and answer session with school alumni or budding business entrepreneurs. Year 11 students also have the chance to partake in selected online revision webinars in the summer term in preparation for their Business GCSE.</i></p>
<b>Links to other curriculum areas</b>	<p><i>Our main curriculum links at KS4 are with Maths and English.</i> <b>Maths</b> - <i>Throughout the GCSE course, Maths is prevalent to students ' learning. From learning about business calculations/formulas when creating business plans to studying Business Finance in Year 11, the link to maths understanding is vital to partaking in the subject.</i> <b>English</b> - <i>When studying the whole course, the reading and interpretation of real life case studies is key to students progression. Furthermore, due to the nature of the two Business exam papers it is crucial that students can compile, develop and structure longer written answers for the questions they are given.</i></p>
<b>Preparation for adult life</b>	<p><i>Regular revision and the creation of revision folders encourages students to become independent learners which is crucial for post-16 education, training and employment.</i> <i>Topics enable students to reflect on morals, values &amp; actions of individuals/societies, encouraging them to become valuable members of their own community as adults.</i> <i>The skills taught in KS4 prepare students for A Level Business.</i> <i>Business skills, naturally, can be transferred to a wide range of careers and situations in adult life. With the nature of the course it is inevitable that students will gain valuable abilities that will serve them well in whatever careers they go on to partake in.</i></p>

## CURRICULUM IMPLEMENTATION

As an Academy we have a range of clear standards and expectations of our pupils however each subject area has its own individual practices and habits that ensure that it can function to its optimum.

### Curriculum delivery:

In Business, students learn in a variety of different ways. A large amount of work is completed both online using a computer, and in individual exercise books. Students build up their skills of learning throughout their time at Vale of York Academy.

### Homework:

	Frequency	Expected time to complete	Completion notes and handing in	What to do if stuck
10	Once a week	Up to 2 hours	Students will be given a full week to complete the homework. Homework will be a mixture of revision and research tasks.	See teacher/refer to Google classroom for support
11	Once a week	Up to 2 hours	Students will be given a full week to complete the homework. Homework will be centred around revision and research tasks. Homework booklets for each GCSE unit will be provided.	See teacher/refer to Google classroom for support

## SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD

Business is one of the fastest growing subjects in the country. Our students' future careers revolve around the word 'Business' and they are stakeholders in various different communities around them, therefore keeping up to date with current affairs will help their learning. Watching the news, reading the latest headlines and talking about social media, politics and sport will improve their subject knowledge.

	Resources to support your child	Relevance - How it helps
Exam courses	BBC Bitesize BBC News YouTube - Tutor2U	Covers all units taught for the AQA GCSE course. Covers current affairs that will be a great link their studies Short videos that cover all AQA GCSE lessons

## WIDER INTEREST

Here is a list of organisations or resources that your child can access if they wish to dive deeper into this subject area:

- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business> - The BBC Business webpage provides up-to-date knowledge on current affairs that will help students be successful on the GCSE course.
- <https://www.twoteachers.co.uk/freebusinessstudiesresources> - The Two Teachers website provides free revision sources for students to engage with topics covered on the GCSE curriculum.
- <https://www.tutor2u.net/business> - Tutor2U Business pages provides numerous revision materials for students to learn from in order to be successful in the GCSE Course.
- GCSE AQA Exam specification: <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/business/gcse/business-8132/specification-at-a-glance>

