

Business Curriculum Overview

Subject Curriculum Intent Statement

Our curriculum vision within Business Studies is to enable students to develop skills and knowledge in the internal and external business environment to prepare pupils for careers within organisations where they both understand their place and significance but also have the ability to take entrepreneurial steps of their own into the business world.

We will develop analytical skills to allow students to approach real world business problems and economic issues with a fundamental knowledge and reasoning ability that will mean learners are inquisitive and curious about the world around them. Teaching and learning focusses on drawing justified conclusions from well-structured analysis.

The links to numeracy in the curriculum are strong with an approach to case studies which uses accounts and finance both directly and passively to build familiarity and confidence. Literacy is linked to the curriculum by a lesson by lesson need to include case study and stem material in the subject matter covered.

Business acumen is an important life skill in allowing learners to be aware of how they sit and contribute to the world of work around them. It is also key in developing learner's confidence in being able to question business decisions and see how they can progress in their own ventures should they choose.

This will be achieved through;

- Developing an understanding and familiarity of the basic and fundamental aspects of the internal workings of a business and the wider economic environment.
- Analysing business problems and developing balanced arguments which will allow for an appreciation of the variety of situations many businesses find themselves in and how they have made some of the mistakes they have.
- Developing well-reasoned recommendations in evaluating cases study and real life business situations. This will include encouraging students to build their own suggestions which are backed up with evidence, knowledge and logic which can ultimately be applied to business studies exam questions.
- Becoming confident and informed people who can deduce and debate the micro and macro economy as part of work or general interest.

In business studies we are passionate about making sure students are prepared to thrive in the fast paced and changing business world that they will one day have to pursue a career in.

In addition, we offer the following optional courses:

Key Stage 4 – Years 9-11

- GCSE Edexcel Business Studies

Key Stage 5 - Years 12-13

- A level AQA Business

Assessment Approach

Within our curriculum, we look at a variety of methods to assess our students. Below is the assessment plan which gives an overview of our assessment approaches with each year group.

Assessment approach	Description	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year13
Low stakes quizzing/ questioning and class discussion	Short answer questions from current or previous topics which is peer or self -marked, Knowledge checks beginning of each lesson				
Lesson review	Students use Reflection activities on graded lesson outcomes through DIRT task activities, allowing students to make improvements				
Teacher, peer and self-assessment of contextual research, skill-based activities and evaluation	Summative assessments are graded by either the teacher, student or peer using the assessment criteria feedback, feedback is given to allow the students to improve their work				
Whole class feedback	Whole class feedback is given to students to overcome misconceptions and provide the class the opportunities to discuss high level outcomes				
Summative end of unit and Full past assessments	summative assessments are used to establish current knowledge/ acquired knowledge overtime to determine gaps in knowledge				
Mock exams using past papers	Past GCSE/A-level papers and exam style questions used to test how student can apply the knowledge into the exam context.				

Business SOW Overview

	Term 1:	Term 2:	Term 3:	Term 4:	Term 5:	Term 6:
Year 10	Unit topic: 1.1 Enterprise and entrepreneurship 1.2 Spotting a business opportunity	Unit topic: 1.3 Putting a business idea into practice 1.4 Making the business effective	Unit topic: 1.4 Making the business effective 1.5 Understanding external influences	Unit topic: 1.5 Understanding external influences 9 and 12 marker exam skills	Unit topic: 2.1 Growing the business	Unit topic: 2.1 Growing the business 2.2 2.2 Making marketing decisions
Year 11	Unit topic: 2.3 Making product decisions 2.3.1 Business operations	Unit topic: 2.3.2 Working with suppliers 2.3.3 Managing quality	Unit topic: 2.3.4 The sales process 2.4 Making financial decisions	Unit topic: 2.4.1 Business calculations	Unit topic: 2.4.2 Understanding business performance 2.5 Making people decisions	Unit topic: 2.5.1 Organisational structures 2.5.2 Effective recruitment

Cross Curricular links

Within our Business curriculum, we offer a variety of opportunities for cross curricular links, that benefits students at all levels. Our cross curricular links are as follows;

- Literacy - Students write extended answers around different topics such as, business marketing, sources of finance, business growth etc with emphasis on quality of written communication.
- Numeracy – Students use their numeracy skills to calculate various business related figures such as Revenue, Profit, Costs, percentages of budgets used etc. Students are also expected to use quantitative data in their answers for extended writing as part of their justifications and arguments.
- PSHE – Throughout key stages 4 and 5, students are exposed to situations where they are asked why they think businesses act in the manner they have in the real world. This reflection helps explore a variety of moral, ethical and cultural issues.

Preparing for Life

At SNA, our Business curriculum supports and further develops the following skills within students to prepare them for life beyond school and the world of work. These include:

- **Problem Solving** – Students are given business situations to consider where real and imaginary businesses have complex problems to solve. Students have to be creative in their application of their business knowledge to think of and justify a solution.
- **Creativity** – Pupils use their creativity in devising business ideas and showing entrepreneurial skills during lesson activities and extra-curricular clubs.
- **Listening/Speaking** – Within lessons, students use their listening skills to assimilate case study information and also to discuss and debate issues surrounding a business problem. Students are frequently asked to vocalise their opinions and explain their choices with reasoned conclusions.
- **Team work** – Collaboration is a key aspect of business studies after school activities allowing students to develop skills that they will later use in the business world as part of careers or further study. Team work is part of lesson activities with sharing understanding and giving feedback a important aspect of developing business skills during the course we run.
- **Reflection** – Within our curriculum, students are often asked to think about why events in the real world have happened to a business and hypothesis what could have been done to change this outcome. Students also have to reflect over their own learning journey to assess what they can do in order to improve and develop their skills.

Extra-Curricular

At KS4 Business, we offer extra intervention sessions after school for students who want extra support or want to learn beyond the curriculum, which they can take into their post 16 studies.