

How will pupils build upon what they have learnt in Key Stage Two?

Business studies is not taught at KS2. However, students are learning key numeracy and literacy skills required to access Business Studies.

Why do we teach our pupils Business?

GCSE Business Studies is a dynamic, interesting and challenging course. It is completely relevant to the world in which we live today, providing students with realistic learning experiences which they will carry on into life. The reason and aim of the Business studies curriculum is to equip students with the appropriate knowledge and skills needed to develop their employability and identify business problems and opportunities. We do this by quality first teaching which ensures students understand underlying Business theory which students apply to a variety of familiar and unfamiliar case studies. We want students to be able to think analytically, reach logical conclusions based on data, and make judgements on future changes to markets and the economy.

As a knowledge based curriculum we believe that knowledge underpins and enables the application of skills; both are entwined. Content is delivered to students and then built upon through a variety of practice questions, with regular quality feedback being given to support student progress. The knowledge acquired then allows students to develop their analytical and critical thinking skills.

Business also provides students with a new, practical context for many of the subjects they study, including maths, social studies and technology. It will help students to recognise the relevance of these subjects as they are applied in the world of business.

Business studies provides valuable opportunities to develop key skills such as ICT, Maths, team working and communication, as well as developing confidence and inter-personal skills.

What is the key knowledge pupils will gain in Science at Woodlands?

We are here to equip our students with essential knowledge about the profit motive, the functions of business, the wider business environment and the UK and World Economies. We learn about businesses from a variety of stakeholder perspectives, allowing our students to make well informed decisions, whether they hope to become an employee, a small business owner, or a corporate executive.

Key Stage 4:

In GCSE Business Studies, students follow an approved GCSE examination syllabus, leading to a full GCSE qualification at the end of the course in Year 11. Students are assessed wholly via written examination, based on two examination papers:

Paper 1: Investigating small business

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

Paper 2: Building a business

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

How will Business at Woodlands prepare pupils for the future?

What opportunities are there to study this subject at Key Stage Five? Most if not all local Post-16 education providers, such as Appleton, offer A-Levels in Business Studies and also Economics which is connected to Business. Local colleges such as USP and South Essex offer a wide range of business-related BTEC courses, such as, Business Management, Business Studies, CIPD Human Resources Practices, and Business and Administration.

What will pupils study in Business at A-Level? Students will study the key elements to business which includes the main departments of Finance, Human Resources, Marketing and Operations.

How does this link with other subjects, at KS5 and beyond? Business links with Economics and Accountancy. In university, Business is the second most popular choice for students.

What employment opportunities are available relating to this subject? Business studies opens up a host of career paths for students. These include: accountancy, advertising, banking, investment, management, PR, sales and marketing, insurance, human resource officer and administrator.