



Business Department Curriculum Statement – June 2024

Vision

The Business department offers a varied curriculum providing students with lots of opportunities to develop both academically and personally. We deliver valuable academic rigour across all courses whilst providing students with opportunities to gain and enhance vital employability skills. By allowing students to actively engage in a variety of learning experiences, we hope to support all students to develop into well rounded individuals ready for the next step of their academic and career journey.

Action

The Business Academy holds the development of key employability skills at its core. All lessons across the business and economics curriculum are carefully planned and facilitated to engage all learners in business and entrepreneurship whilst embedding core employability skills and business knowledge. Each learner is supported to develop an understanding of specific key terms which are deep-rooted throughout schemes of learning.

The business curriculum is spiralled from years 9 to 11, to ensure that learners can embed a deep knowledge and understanding, over-learning key concepts and terms through mastery techniques. The year 9 programme provides solid foundations to ensure students are ready to take on their next step in level 2 learning, whichever path this maybe. Learning is then sequenced throughout years 10 and 11 to build on prior learning and skills, becoming progressively challenging and ensuring that students can commit all knowledge to long term memory, whilst meeting the demands of the Level 2 course of study. The level 2 programme that the student studies is determined to best suit individual needs and learning styles. Teaching is adapted to support all students achieve and focus on consistently high aspirations.

All learning is underpinned with regular and thorough assessments to measure progress. Students studying in 6th form are also offered a broad spectrum of academic opportunities to suit their learning styles. The Business Academy further enhances the curriculum available to students studying at Key Stage 5, incorporating Business and Personal Finance, Economics and Entrepreneurship as well as a programme of enrichment, which includes contact with employer and university partners. All students across the curriculum, are supported with a variety of Session 3 activities from small group revision to business and enterprise enrichment activities, broadening student experiences and culture.

Impact

Business is a popular subject across all key stages, and we consistently deliver strong outcomes both in terms of attainment and progress, compared with national standards. The business curriculum offer, complemented by vital enrichment activities, supports students to progress into a wide variety of destinations including higher education, degree apprenticeships and school leaver schemes, with organisations such as Capgemini, Deloitte, Grant Thornton and JLR.

Students across the Business Academy are offered a wide variety of enrichment activities outside of the classroom to support each individual's personal development. These opportunities are not restricted to students studying the subject, starting with Key Stage 3 Enterprise club. We use industry links to support the enrichment of lessons, providing a real-life context to learning. Industry visits and university talks enhance student knowledge of the business world.

The intention is that each student will graduate from the Business Academy with an Employability Passport. Our pledge is to give students entering the Business Academy an opportunity to reflect on their own skills and talents. Each individual will leave with an employer and university endorsed pledge identifying the skills that they have developed, and the progress made during their time within the Business Academy. The experiences will support students to develop into well rounded community members ready to enter the next stage of their personal journey equipped with the vital skills that all employers look for.