



Business Studies

Exam Board: Edexcel (Pearson)

Contact teacher: Mrs D Davies

Why study the National Extended Certificate in Business Studies

The course is the National Extended Certificate in Business Studies, this is the equivalent of one A Level. The course uses a learner-centred approach to study, with the main assessment style being project-based. Practical and thinking skills are both developed throughout the course, fully preparing students for the world of work or higher education.

The course comprises of 4 units of study, 2 of which are externally assessed and 2 of which are internally assessed. These units cover a wide range of Business topics including Business Environments, Marketing, Finance and Human Resources.

Course details

Year 1

Unit 1 Exploring Business	Exploring the features of different businesses to see how they are organised and how they are successful. The environment and markets in which businesses operate is also investigated and considered.	Internal Assessment 90 Credits
Unit 3 Personal & Business Finance	Understanding why money is important to both individuals and businesses. Looking at accounting terminology and be able to make and evaluate financial decisions in real life situations. <i>(This is a written exam of 2 hours comprising 100 marks.)</i>	External Assessment 120 Credits

Year 2

Unit 8 Recruitment and Selection	Exploring how the recruitment process is carried out in a business and participating in selection interviews. There are opportunities to review performance and analyse skills for personal and career development.	Internal Assessment 60 Credits
Unit 2 Developing a Marketing Campaign	Examining marketing aims for existing products/services and understanding the importance of research in relation to customers' needs and wants. Making recommendations about the type of marketing campaign that a business should undertake. <i>(This is 3-hour supervised assessment worth 70 marks).</i>	External Assessment 90 credits

How is the course taught and assessed?

The course is taught through a mixture of practical and theoretical lessons. Students are expected to complete independent research and assignment work between lessons. Two units within the course are project-based, where students will complete a range of tasks which build into a portfolio for each unit, one is a written exam and one a controlled assessment which is sat under exam conditions and externally marked.

Entry requirements

Students will need to have the standard College entry requirements with strong English skills in order to complete the written components of the course. GCSE or BTEC Level 2 Business is not an essential requirement for this course however; if level 2 Business was taken, then a minimum of a grade 4 (GCSE) or level 2 pass (BTEC) is required.

Career routes and popular combinations

Students who study Business go on to a wide range of careers and areas of further study. The best thing about Business is that, no matter what you do or where you go, everyone ends up working for a business and so the skills developed on this course will be applicable everywhere. Careers that use a Business qualification can include: Management, Law, Accounting, Teaching, Entrepreneurship, creative industries, and many more.