



# BUSINESS STUDIES

## GCSE

### OPTION SUBJECT – CATEGORY B

EXAMINATION BOARD: EDEXCEL

SPECIFICATION CODE: 1BSO

#### **WHY TAKE THIS COURSE?**

All students will become part of the business world either as workers or customers. This course provides an understanding of the commercial world and how finance is raised and used by the government to pay for the nation's goods and services.

Business studies encourages students to consider the practical application of business and economic concepts and explores the theories and concepts in the context of events in the business and economic world.

Following a business related course will assist progression on to a full range of post-16 pathways such as A-levels, apprenticeships and business related college courses.

#### **AIMS OF THE COURSE**

To inform students about the business world.

To actively encourage students in the study of business to develop as effective and independent learners and as critical and reflective thinkers with enquiring minds.

To develop and apply students' knowledge, understanding and skills to contemporary issues in a range of local, national and global contexts.

#### **COURSE STRUCTURE AND CONTENT**

There are two themes of work to be studied:

##### ***Theme 1 – Investigating a small business***

Theme 1 concentrates on the key business concepts, issues and skills involved in starting and running a small business. It explores core business concepts through the lens of an entrepreneur

##### ***Theme 2 – Building a business***

Theme 2 examines how a business develops beyond the start-up phase. It focuses on the key business concepts, issues and decisions used to grow a business, with emphasis on aspects of marketing, operations, finance and human resources. It also considers the impact of the wider world on the decisions of a growing business.

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## **ASSESSMENT**

The assessment method will be two examination papers which will be taken at the end of the study period.

Each externally-examined paper is 50% of the qualification.

Each examination paper is divided into three sections:

Section A: 35 marks

Section B: 30 marks

Section C: 25 marks.

The paper will consist of calculations, multiple-choice, short-answer and extended-writing questions.

Questions in Sections B and C will be based on business contexts given in the paper.

Calculators may be used in the examination.

## **ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**

An interest in business; how businesses develop and function, interact with each other and customers, as well as a wish to develop a range of transferable skills.