



Department Information:

The AQA GCSE Business course gives students a clear and practical insight into how businesses operate and make decisions. In Year 10, students study Paper 1, developing foundational knowledge of enterprise, planning, ownership, aims and objectives, stakeholders, growth, operations and HR, including how businesses organise themselves, manage staff and make operational decisions. In Year 11, the focus shifts to Paper 2, where students explore how businesses identify and meet customer needs through market research, segmentation and the marketing mix, before moving into financial concepts such as revenue, costs, profit, cash flow and break-even. The course is assessed through two 1 hour 45

Curriculum aims and intent:

- Develop foundational business understanding: Students build secure knowledge of how businesses start, operate and make decisions, beginning with the core content in 3.1 Business in the real world during Year 10.
- Strengthen analytical thinking: Students learn to interpret real business situations, apply theory to context and make justified decisions using content from 3.2 Influences on business and 3.3 Business operations.
- Build confident financial and marketing skills: Students develop the ability to calculate, interpret and evaluate financial and marketing information, beginning with 3.4 Human resources in Year 10 and progressing to 3.4 Marketing and 3.5 Finance in Year 11.
- Apply business concepts to real scenarios: Students use case studies and contemporary examples to understand how businesses respond to opportunities, challenges and external influences.
- Develop transferable skills: Students strengthen communication, problem solving, numeracy and evaluative judgement, preparing them

Assessment:

The AQA GCSE Business course is assessed through two written examination papers, each worth 50% of the final grade. Both Paper 1 and Paper 2 are 1 hour 45 minutes and are based on real-world case studies that require students to apply their knowledge to practical business scenarios. Each paper assesses students across all four skills: knowledge, application, analysis and evaluation, with a mixture of short-answer questions and extended responses designed to test their ability to make justified business decisions.

Resources used to support learning:

- CGP AQA GCSE Business Revision Guide — ISBN 13 978 1782946892
- CGP AQA GCSE Business Exam Practice Workbook — ISBN 13 978 1782946922
- Hodder AQA GCSE (9–1) Business Textbook — ISBN 13 978 1471899356
- Hodder AQA GCSE Business Revision Guide — ISBN 13 978 1510423518
- Hodder AQA GCSE Business Workbook — ISBN 13 978 1510423522

Home Learning:

Students studying AQA GCSE Business will receive one piece of home learning each week. Home learning tasks are designed to reinforce classroom learning, develop exam skills and build long-term knowledge retention. Activities may include retrieval practice, case-study application, structured exam questions, or revision of key theory and calculations. Consistent completion of weekly home learning supports strong progress across the course and prepares students effectively for

How parents can help their child:

Parents can support students in GCSE Business by encouraging regular home learning habits, discussing real-world business examples at home, and helping students stay organised with deadlines and revision. They can also guide students to use recommended resources such as revision guides, online platforms and practice questions, and check in on their understanding of key terms and calculations. Most importantly, maintaining positive routines and encouragement helps students build confidence and stay motivated throughout the course.

Term	Summary of work being covered	Knowledge, Understanding and skills assessed	How the work is assessed	Career Links
1	3.1 Business in the real world - Students learn what businesses are, why they exist, different forms of ownership, aims and objectives, stakeholders, growth and location decisions.	Understanding business purpose, interpreting stakeholder needs, analysing aims and objectives, and applying real world examples to decision making.	Exam questions answered under exam conditions in class	Supports pathways into entrepreneurship, administration, business support roles and early management training.
2	3.1 Business in the real world (3.1 cont. As above)	3.1 Cont. - as above	Exam questions answered under exam conditions in class	3.1 Cont. as above.
3	3.2 Influences on business - Students explore how external factors such as technology, legislation, the economy, competition and ethical/environmental considerations affect business behaviour.	Analysing external influences, evaluating business responses, and applying contextual reasoning to real scenarios.	Exam questions answered under exam conditions in class	Relevant to careers in policy, compliance, sustainability, market analysis and business consultancy.
4	3.2 Influences on business + 3.3 Business operations - Students study production methods, working with suppliers, managing quality, and the importance of efficiency in operations.	Understanding operational processes, interpreting operational data, and evaluating decisions that affect productivity and quality.	Exam questions answered under exam conditions in class	Links to roles in operations management, logistics, supply chain, manufacturing and quality control.
5	3.3 Business operations + 3.4 Human Resources - Students first learn HR content (recruitment, training, motivation, organisational structures) and later move into marketing (market research, segmentation and the marketing mix).	Applying HR theory to workforce decisions, analysing marketing data, and evaluating how businesses meet customer needs.	Exam questions answered under exam conditions in class	Supports careers in HR, recruitment, marketing, advertising, customer insight and people management.
6	3.4 Human Resources + Revision/Exam Technique. 3.4 Cont. as above	3.4 Cont. - as above	Mock exam - Full paper 1. Exam questions answered under exam conditions in class.	3.4 Cont. - as above