

Business Curriculum Statement

The Vision for Business Studies at Wykham Park Academy is to establish a diverse, high-quality curriculum that allows students to understand how studying business and enterprise can help in developing their economic well-being, critical thinking and employability. We believe business education should play a key role in all students' education as it supports their development of a wide range of skills that will support them throughout their lives.

The department aims to develop curious students who have excellent problem solving, research, analysis and evaluation skills. We want our students to realise how business skills and qualifications can be applied to every job they may have when they leave school. Our curriculum offering will provide a good steppingstone for students to pursue jobs in wider fields not related to business. They could potentially be key drivers in the future success of the UK economy.

To achieve this vision, real world application will be embedded throughout the course, so students understand the relevance of what they are learning. Students will be provided with opportunities to investigate the link between the theory they study and the complex business world in which we live. This will therefore help them to develop into confident employees, consumers and entrepreneurs. There will be a strong emphasis on encouraging students to develop a genuine interest in current global events as it is what I believe makes the subject so interesting and relevant to students.

The curriculum is structured in such a way so that students are able to develop a wide range of transferable skills such as critical thinking and self-evaluation; such skills will allow them to succeed both in higher education and the world of work. Lessons build on what students have previously learnt and allow them to understand the vital role the dynamic business environment plays in the success of the UK and ultimately how it impacts on the quality of their lives.

Students focus on researching current business issues, alongside a focus on investigation and evidencing the issues and making recommendations. They will then build on knowledge of key areas which will then develop good contextual knowledge for the students to enable them to access the exam questions and answer them in a high level to ensure the best results for our students in Business across both Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5. This will all lead to our aim of developing well rounded students Who can develop understanding of different business content and enable them to use this new knowledge to apply to different business scenarios.

The department aims to make sure that all students are able to access the curriculum equally and are therefore able to achieve their full potential. In order to achieve this, we

use a range of teaching strategies including explicitly teaching study skills, the deconstructing of model answers and the use of scaffolding to provide support. We seek for all students to understand how what they learn relates to the real world and have a range of business books to support this, ranging from autobiographies of entrepreneurs to books about specific businesses.

Intent

During the two-year Key Stage 4 course students will focus on how businesses start and grow over time as well the impact of external influences. The curriculum is designed to allow students to develop an interest in business and entrepreneurial skills and make connections between theory and practice so that they are able to apply their understanding of business to real organisations. During the course students will develop their confidence in using both quantitative and qualitative data to make business decisions.

At Key Stage 5 students the course builds on what students have learnt at Key stage 4 but there is a much more synoptic approach, so students are able to develop a deeper understanding of how the different theories we study interlink and therefore develop their critical evaluation skills. By the end of the course Students will understand how a business makes decisions and the risks and rewards involved and how it can contribute to the success and failure of a business or global economies.

Adaptive teaching