

Next steps!

If you are interested in studying the GCSE in Business you should start to find out more about the subject by:

- visiting the Edexcel website (www.edexcel.com/gcse2009). There is a lot of useful information about what you will be studying and how you will be assessed
- talking to the Head of Business at your school who will be able to describe the course in detail and advise you of what you need to do next when it comes to your options
- finding out what is happening in the world of business by watching BBC programmes like The Apprentice, Dragons' Den and Working Lunch or visiting the BBC Bitesize website (www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize).

Business Question:

Which of these companies is **not** listed on the Stock Exchange?

Business Answer:

(a) John Lewis

Edexcel

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About Edexcel

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Edexcel GCSE Business



STUDENT GUIDE

Is this the right subject for me?

If you enjoy:

- communicating and explaining your ideas
- thinking creatively and making decisions
- working with numbers to solve business problems
- learning about the world of business through research and investigation, as well as through practical tasks

then the GCSE Business course is the right subject for you.

What do I need to know, or be able to do, before taking this course?

It doesn't matter if you haven't studied business prior to taking this course. You might have an interest in business, and want to start your own business one day. You may have an enquiring mind and be interested in learning about the world around you, how businesses are set up, and what it is that makes someone a great entrepreneur. This course will help you to understand all this and more.

What will I learn?

While studying the first two units of this course you are likely to learn a lot of new things. You will be introduced to the world of small businesses and will look at what makes someone a successful business person. You will find out how to develop an idea and spot an opportunity, and turn that into a successful business. You will understand how to make a business effective and manage money. You will also see how the world around us affects small businesses and all the people involved.

The route you choose to follow will determine what you learn.

GCSE in Business Studies

You will learn more about how small businesses are developed and discover how businesses promote themselves and keep their customers happy. You will learn how businesses manage both their finances and the people who work for them.

GCSE in Business Communications

You will understand how important effective communication is to any business. You will learn what communication is and the different ways businesses communicate with people inside and outside the business.

GCSE in Business Studies and Economics

You will find out how to think like an economist and learn how the economy functions, the government's role in the economy and its impact on business. You will also examine what causes businesses to fail and how businesses grow. You will study many issues within the world of business such as inequality.

How will I be assessed?

Unit 1 Examination	Unit 2 Controlled Assessment	Unit 3 or 4 or 5 Examination
You will take a written examination paper with multiple-choice and objective test questions based on the unit.	You will be given a list of controlled assessment tasks to choose from. The tasks will be based on what you have studied in Unit 1.	The questions will be a mixture of multiple-choice, data response, short-answer, extended-writing and scenario-based questions. For example, you might be given details of a business and asked a few questions based on that business.

What can I do after I've completed the course?

No matter which route you follow, all these business courses can help you prepare for further and higher education such as AS/A2 Levels and BTEC and NVQ courses. You will become skilled in making decisions, being creative, solving problems, understanding finance, dealing with data, communicating and working as part of team. A GCSE Business course could lead to work in a business-related profession such as accountancy, law, marketing or the leisure and tourism industry.

Business Question:

Which of these companies is **not** listed on the Stock Exchange?

- (a) John Lewis
- (b) Marks and Spencer
- (c) Barclays Bank
- (d) Tesco

