

Painsley Catholic College – Curriculum Statement – Business and Economics

Intent – What we are trying to achieve?

The business and economics department incorporates the following areas:

- GCSE business studies is available to all students in Years 9-11.
- Level 1/2 Event Operations is available for pathway C students in Years 9-11
- 'Business Club' is available for all students to attend in Y10 as enrichment
- Business enrichment is available for all students to attend in Y12/Y13
- A Level business studies is available to students who have achieved the entry requirements for the sixth form and a grade 5 or higher in GCSE English and maths in Years 12-13
- A Level economics is available to students who have achieved the entry requirements for the sixth form and a grade 5 or higher in GCSE English and maths in Years 12-13
- BTEC Business Level 3 is available to students who have achieved the entry requirements for the sixth form in Years 12-13

Our objectives are:

- The fundamental ability to work alongside other professionals, in a professional environment
- To ensure students have the opportunity to develop crucial communication skills
- To develop an understanding of how organisations and economies operate
- To develop as effective and independent students, and as critical and reflective thinkers with enquiring minds
- To allow students to demonstrate analytical abilities and use an enquiring, critical approach to make informed judgements
- To investigate and analyse current affairs and issues to construct well-argued, well-evidenced, balanced and structured arguments, demonstrating their depth and breadth of understanding of business and the economy
- To improve students' confidence in delivering presentations
- To be commercially aware and gain an important understanding of the external environment and the impacts it can have

Implementation –

- In order to fully meet students' needs, there is more than one course available to students at both KS4 and KS5. They vary in content and assessment methods which students are informed of and guided through to meet their individual needs.
- A detailed scheme of learning is followed by all teachers for Business GCSE, Events Operations, A Level Business, A Level Economics and BTEC Business.
- Assessment is rigorous for Business GCSE, Events Operations, A Level Business, A Level Economics and BTEC Business, consisting of examination style questions. Full past papers are completed as mocks from the end of Year 10 for GCSE business and

Year 9 for Events Operations. Full past papers are used for mocks for A Level Business and Economics and BTEC business from November in Year 12. Assessments consist of questions on current topics and also previous topics to ensure a spiral learning approach. All assessments are teacher marked, graded and individual follow-up work set.

- Homework is set weekly and teacher assessed fortnightly in line with the college policy. KS5 students are set 3 hours of independent and 3 hours of assessed tasks per week per subject. GCSE business and events management homework is 45 minutes a week in length and links to either the current topic or previous topic as a spiral learning approach is used. Live marking is used to assess students' work in class and to provide immediate feedback to students.
- Follow-up tasks are completed by students in lesson using a set group method, whereby students fall into either a 're-teach' group, a 'consolidate' group or an 'extend' group depending on their needs for that assessment.
- Revision homework is provided to all students and set as homework prior to assessments.
- The assessment and exam plan is followed from the school policy for the year.
- Staff share resources in Business GCSE, Events Operations, A Level Business, A Level Economics and BTEC Business and adaptations are made where necessary.
- Success criteria in every lesson and homework are set in order to guide student performance. This ensures work is demanding and matches the aims of the curriculum.
- Extra-curricular – students have the opportunity to attend the 'Business Club' in Year 10 or business enrichment in Years 12-13 even if they do not formally study business or economics to achieve the objectives discussed above. Students also have the opportunity to attend trips such as Cadbury World, Business School University tasters and CIPFA Management Team Games.

Impact

- Students consistently achieve excellent exam results in KS5 (no external examinations have been sat in KS4 as of yet) with 100% pass rate in all areas.
- Students gain entry to university to continue studying a range of courses including both business and economics.
- Students achieve places on apprenticeship schemes at both level 3 and 4.
- Outcomes focus and guide all development plans and drive improvement.
- Students are enthusiastic, confident, resilient and ready to continue their journey into further education, training or the world of work.