



The Holy Trinity Church of England Secondary School

Department details

DEPARTMENT : Business Studies

The successful candidate will join a department which has an excellent academic record and considerable success in encouraging students to go on and study business at university or secure good jobs locally. The department aims to give each student an understanding of the business world and prepare them to help each student achieve his or her potential. A variety of teaching styles and delivery are adopted to enable this aim to be translated into effective practice. The development of teaching and learning is a school and departmental priority, and there is an emphasis on group work and problem-solving activities which fits in with teaching Business and Travel very well. The members of the department are encouraged to develop their own strengths and individual skills while operating as a team, respecting and complementing each other. Sharing of teaching methods and experience is encouraged both formally and informally. In lessons the atmosphere is disciplined but friendly and conducive to learning and personal development.

STAFFING STRUCTURE and who's who

There are 4 members of teaching staff within the department teaching Business Studies and Travel & Tourism at Key Stage 4 and 5, Economics at KS5 and WorkSkills at Key Stage 4.

The current Head of Business Studies, Richard Kilroy is supported by Sandy Gardiner, Subject Leader for Travel & Tourism and two further members of staff. All members of the department teach more than one of the subjects on offer and/or deliver the school's PSE programme.

Individual members of the Department have involved themselves in the wider aspects of school life and played leading roles in such things as mentoring projects, Young Enterprise, chess club, charitable events and cross-curricular projects. It is anticipated that anyone joining the department would make a similar level of contribution. We keep parents informed on what the department's students are doing with regular articles in the monthly parents' newsletter.

Courses and Exam Boards

Our results are consistently above the national average across the key stages. Results for 2014 are as follows:

Key Stage 4 Business Studies GCSE 80.2% A*-C, 24.2% A*/A

Key Stage 5 Business Studies AS-Level 52.4 % A-C
Business Studies National Certificate 66.6% Distinction/Distinction*
Travel & Tourism National Certificate 42.9% Distinction/Distinction*
Business Studies A-Level 72.7% A*-C
Business Studies National Subsidiary Diploma 87.5% Distinction/Distinction*
Travel & Tourism National Subsidiary Diploma 100.0% Distinction/Distinction*
Economics A8-B 46%; A*-C 86.7%; A*-E 100%

The department also offers a one year Level 2 BTEC in both Business Studies and Travel and Tourism for those students who have not met the entry requirements to do Level 3 courses in the 6th Form. Many of these students then repeat Year 12 and do Level 3 courses.

At Key Stage 4 a suite of Level 2 BTEC courses are now offered in Business Studies, Travel & Tourism and WorkSkills

Development Plan Priorities

The main areas for development in the current plan are as follows:

- To continue to improve the quality of marking, feedback and assessment
- To continue to develop our teaching and learning with an emphasis on developing group and inter-active tasks to aid learning and personal growth
- To ensure the department is ready to teach the new A Level Business Studies syllabus from September 2015
- To develop further links with the local business community to aid our students' learning

Additional Department Specific Info

Key Stage 4

Business Studies is a very popular subject at Key Stage 4 and currently there are over 100 students in Year 10 taking business across 4 classes (3 GCSE and 1 BTEC) and a similar number in Year 11 also across 4 classes. We have launched Level 2 courses in Travel & Tourism and WorkSkills this year and the former was also over-subscribed. Our GCSE syllabus is offered by OCR (J253) and our BTEC courses are all offered by Edexcel.

Key Stage 5

Our A Level students study the AQA syllabus and this will continue from September when the new Business syllabus comes in. We offer the Edexcel Level 2 and 3 courses in Business Studies and there are over 60 sixth formers taking one of the Business Studies courses and over 30 taking one of the Travel & Tourism Edexcel courses.

We currently have over 20 students studying Economics following Edexcel Economics (syllabus A).

Accommodation; Events and Activities; Current links with other depts.

The Business Studies Department has three dedicated classrooms, all with a dedicated teacher desktop computer and one with an interactive whiteboard. Two of the rooms are also equipped with 16 computers each and there are additional laptops that can be booked for use in lessons. Each member of staff is issued with a laptop to help with the preparation, planning and delivery of lessons. There is a Business Studies office for all the team including the HOD and this has helped with sharing ideas and resources.

Pupils have the opportunity to take part in a number of extra-curricular activities both school based and external. These include, in recent years, the Premiership Enterprise Challenge, Barclays/St Catherine's Hospice Enterprise Challenge and Young Start Up Talent.

We work closely with the local business community and frequently invite local business people in to talk to our students or work with them. This has ranged from young entrepreneurs who have recently started out to the chief executive of Nestle UK and includes representatives on McDonalds, Virgin Atlantic, Thomson Holidays and the MP for Crawley.

The department has contributed to a range of cross –curricular activities which have included running enterprise days for Year 10's.

Any other Celebration Points

On average, around 50% of our Level 3 students go on to study a business-related course at University. We have two former business students on the Nestle fast track management programme where they are paid to study at Hallamshire University in between training at the Crawley Head Office.

Some of our former students stay in touch with the department and, after completing their degrees, have secured good jobs in Marketing, Finance and the City. Some have even come back and chatted with the current generation of students.

Our former Travel students have been similarly successful and we have some at University studying Travel & Tourism or more specific aspects such as Hotel Management. One is currently studying at the Brigham Young University-Hawaii and another has recently completed a work placement at Buckingham Palace. Former students are now employed locally by Virgin Atlantic, Easyjet, Thomson Holidays, Hilton Hotels and British Airways.

Additional Job Specific Details