

Little Heath School Sixth Form

Year 12 Induction Evening for Parents 2016

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| A Level Business Studies (AQA) |

Welcome to the department

Please find the contact information for your son/daughter’s Business Studies teachers and the Head of Department below:

Mr T Jessop [tjessop@littleheath.org.uk](mailto:tjessop@littleheath.org.uk)

Miss K Norrington (Head of Business Studies) [knorrington@littleheath.org.uk](mailto:knorrington@littleheath.org.uk)

The A Level Business Studies course is an examination based qualification which encourages candidates to develop a critical understanding of organisations, the markets they serve and the external factors which influence business decision making.

The aim of the qualification is to enable students to develop a range of skills including decision making, problem-solving and the ability to present and analyse information to forward their arguments.

This course encourages the practical application of business concepts, providing learners with the opportunity to explore events in the business world as a means of reinforcing understanding of theories and concepts.

Students will attend 8 lessons over a fortnight and are expected to use their supervised study periods effectively to consolidate their learning, complete independent research and ensure that all homework tasks are completed by the deadlines set. In Year 12, students will be expected to complete two externally assessed units. Both examinations will be assessed in May/June 2017 and will contain a mixture of short and extended answer questions, some of which will be based on detailed case studies and will assess all topics covered in the course. Further details on individual units can be found on Little Heath School’s website.

Key to success at A Level

* Students should communicate with their Business Studies teacher over points that may not be clear. They should not be afraid to ask!
* Students must ensure that all homework and class tasks are completed. The work should be submitted on A4 lined paper unless the teacher has stated otherwise.
* It is important that students ask for help from a Business Studies teacher before a deadline if problems are encountered.
* Students should try to keep up to date with business news on the television, newspapers and websites.

What parents can do to help

Please encourage your son/daughter to watch current affairs programmes and read business news websites in their spare time. A better understanding of what is happening in the economic and business environment will give students a big advantage when preparing for their examinations.

Students have been given the opportunity to subscribe to the Business Review magazine. This is a magazine that is written specifically for A Level Business Studies students and will help them to develop their understanding of business issues by looking at real-life case studies. In addition, senior examiners often submit articles about examination technique, so this is a really valuable resource for students who want to succeed in this subject. Please email Miss K Norrington if you are interested in subscribing to this extremely useful magazine.

Essential equipment

Students must ensure that they bring a calculator to every lesson.

It would also be advisable for students to have a pack of highlighters for use when examining case studies during lessons and for homework.

Students must ensure that their notes are well organised. We recommend that they invest in a large A4 binder and separate their notes into sections using dividers.