

BUSINESS AT THE OPEN ACADEMY

Our school vision **“Courage in every step, faith in every journey”**

The world of business is a phenomenon that has influence and impact on almost every area of life, affecting us all, whether as a consumer or business owner/employee. The study of business is therefore a subject of real-life importance and significance and is treated as such here at the Open Academy. Students electing to study business will be given a bespoke insight into the world – from the role of the entrepreneur to working in a corporate business environment. Students will learn to understand and utilise a vast array of professional business skills and knowledge, as well as developing a range of written and spoken communication skills that will make them more effective communicators in business and life in general. To be successful in the world of business often requires real courage and faith and a key part of the course here at Open is to give students the knowledge and skills that will allow them to have that faith and courage.

RESPECT	ASPIRATION	PERSEVERANCE
<p>The foundation of any successful business is respect – from respect comes trust and from trust often comes success. With this in mind, the learning and development of skills and technical knowledge that will help students create respect in class, school and later life are placed at the forefront of the course. Students are encouraged to act with respect to staff and peers throughout every lesson and praised and rewarded to embed this in their own personal ethos and the culture of the lesson.</p>	<p>The world of business encompasses such a vast array of possible future opportunities, and a key part of our mission is for students to understand where and what those opportunities are that students can aspire to. The wide array of transferrable skills taught in business will help students will be confident in aspiring to whatever they hope to achieve when they leave school and open their eyes to the potential rewards a career in business can have.</p>	<p>As part of the course, we study a unit on the world of entrepreneur’s and look at several case studies of famous people from the world of business and the journey they took to success. This not only is designed to inspire students but also to help them understand the need for perseverance in business and life in general if they are to be successful. Students also carry out a range of business inspired projects that consistently test their perseverance and build their confidence as they work individually and part of a team to succeed.</p>

SPIRITUALITY	GLOBAL CITIZENS	AWE AND WONDER
<p>Studying GCSE Business powerfully supports students’ spiritual development by helping them explore their own values, purpose, and sense of identity in a real-world context. Through engaging topics such as business ethics, sustainability, and corporate social responsibility, students are challenged to think deeply about right and wrong, fairness, and the impact of decisions on others. They don’t just learn how businesses make money—they consider how businesses should behave. This encourages reflection on personal beliefs, builds moral confidence, and helps students develop a strong sense of who they are and what they stand for. GCSE Business therefore goes beyond academic learning, supporting students in becoming thoughtful, principled individuals who can make meaningful contributions to society.</p>	<p>GCSE Business also plays a vital role in developing students as global citizens, equipping them with the knowledge and awareness needed to thrive in an increasingly connected world. Students explore globalisation, international markets, and cultural differences, gaining insight into how businesses operate across borders and how decisions can have worldwide consequences. This not only broadens their understanding of the global economy but also encourages empathy, respect, and responsibility. By studying real-world examples and global brands, students begin to see their place within a wider international community, preparing them for future careers and helping them become informed, open-minded individuals who can engage confidently with global issues.</p>	<p>Perhaps most excitingly, GCSE Business inspires a genuine sense of awe and wonder by showing students what is possible when creativity meets opportunity. Students discover how simple ideas can grow into successful businesses, how innovation shapes the world around us, and how entrepreneurs turn challenges into success stories. Whether designing their own products, analysing famous brands, or exploring how businesses adapt to change, students are constantly exposed to the dynamic and ever-evolving nature of business. This sparks curiosity, ambition, and imagination—encouraging students to think big, take initiative, and see the potential within themselves. GCSE Business doesn’t just teach content; it inspires students to believe that they can create, lead, and shape the future.</p>