

# SOCIAL SCIENCES

Within Social Sciences there are three subjects: Business Studies, Law and Psychology.

## Business Studies

### Key Stage 4

In GCSE Business Studies students will be undertaking two externally examined papers in Year 11 with a mock exam at the end of Year 10.

Theme 1 is investigating small business and is a written examination and is 50% of the examination. The content within Theme 1 includes enterprise and entrepreneurship, spotting a business opportunity, putting a business idea into practice, making the business effective and understanding external influences on business. The paper will consist of calculations, multiple-choice, short-answer and extended-writing. Theme 2: Building a business is also 50% of the marks and the content within Theme 2 includes, growing the business, making marketing decisions, making operational decisions, making financial decisions, making human resource decisions, this paper consists of calculations, multiple-choice, short-answer and extended-writing questions.



Business Studies enables students to:

- use an enquiring, critical approach to distinguish facts and opinions, to build arguments and make informed judgements
- develop and apply their knowledge, understanding and skills to contemporary issues in a range of local, national and global contexts
- appreciate the range of perspectives of different stakeholders in relation to business and economic activities
- consider the extent to which business and economic activity can be ethical and sustainable.

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### Key Stage 5

The aims of this specification are to encourage learners to:

- develop an enthusiasm for studying business
- gain an holistic understanding of business in a range of contexts
- develop a critical understanding of organisations and their ability to meet society's needs and wants
- understand that business behaviour can be studied from a range of perspectives
- generate enterprising and creative approaches to business opportunities, problems and issues
- be aware of the ethical dilemmas and responsibilities faced by organisations and individuals
- take a more strategic view of business opportunities, problems and issues
- acquire a range of relevant business and generic skills, including decision making, problem solving, the challenging of assumptions and critical analysis

Theme 1: Marketing and people	Theme 2: Managing business activities	Theme 3: Business decisions and strategy	Theme 4: Global business
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>meeting customer needs</li> <li>the market</li> <li>marketing mix and strategy</li> <li>managing people</li> <li>entrepreneurs and leaders</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>raising finance</li> <li>financial planning</li> <li>managing finance</li> <li>resource management</li> <li>external influences</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>business objectives and strategy</li> <li>business growth</li> <li>decision-making techniques</li> <li>influences on business decisions</li> <li>assessing competitiveness</li> <li>managing change</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>globalisation</li> <li>global markets and business</li> <li>expansion</li> <li>global marketing</li> <li>global industries and companies (multinational corporations)</li> </ul>

## A Level Law

Law is important for everyone as it affects our daily life in almost every way. A level law not only teaches students about the laws which influence their lives, but also teaches valuable problem-solving and logical thinking skills – these skills are transferable to other subjects and will prepare students for studying all subjects at university level or for future employment in any profession.

Law is relevant to the students' role as members of the local community as it teaches important citizenship issues about local democracy, policing and justice.

The AS course focuses on the English Legal System, including policing, sentencing, criminal and civil courts, and how laws are made by parliament and judges. At A2 level students study criminal law including murder and manslaughter, assault and battery, theft and fraud. They will learn how to decide if a criminal offence has been committed in problem questions, and also be asked to comment on laws and how we use law to regulate human conduct in a modern and fair society.

Students will have the opportunity, as part of the AS course, to take part in a visit to London including tours of the Houses of Parliament, Royal Courts of Justice and the Law Society.

## A Level Psychology

A-level Psychology provides students with a sound understanding of the various methods and approaches used in Psychology. It is designed to develop students' critical thinking skills and will prepare them for higher level study. We aim to develop students' ability to interpret, evaluate and comment. Students are encouraged to develop an in-depth knowledge of core topics. This specification also allows them to demonstrate the ability to use scientific methodology in the context of psychology.

There is no requirement for prior knowledge of Psychology when embarking on this course.

This course is fully examined, with no coursework. Question papers will assess students' ability to apply their knowledge rather than just the ability to learn material.

Students will sit AS Level examinations towards the end of the first year of the course. There are 2 papers each of which are subdivided in to 3 topics. The grades from these do not count towards the A level.

- **Paper 1** Social influence, Memory and Attachment
- **Paper 2** : Approaches, Research methods and psychopathology.

This is a linear A Level so at the end of the second year students will be examined on all topics covered over the 2 years. This will be done through 3 exams each subdivided in to four or three topics.

- **Paper 1:** Social influence, Memory, Attachment, Psychopathology.
  - **Paper 2:** Approaches, Biopsychology, Research Methods (research methods section worth double marks)
  - **Paper 3:** Issues and debates, Relationships, Eating Behaviours and Forensics.
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## How does it link to the local community?

The Psychology course helps students to understand key social issues such as, mental health awareness and the prevalence of mental disorders in the community. It helps to break down stigmas which are associated with mental health disorders.

Within Business Studies we work with the local business community and are members of the Carlisle Ambassadors group.