

WJEC GCSE Business Newsletter - April 2024

Welcome back to a new term and the excitement of the summer exam season. We hope you had a restful break over Easter, and that you and your students are feeling refreshed and ready for the run up to summer. To help with your planning and preparation, we have included some general and subject-specific updates and information to help get you and your students off to a successful start.

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1. Latest News

As part of the new Curriculum for Wales we will be launching a brand-new GCSE Business qualification that aims to help learners develop an understanding of the world of Business from local, national and global perspectives. Following an enquiry-driven, problem-solving approach, students will be encouraged to form links between the activities and impacts of business in their local community and the wider world, whilst developing their analytical skills and taking a global outlook towards understanding how factors such as change, globalisation, enterprise, politics and society are shaping the world in which they live.

Assessment will be through a mixture of examinations and controlled assessment in order to give maximum opportunity for all students to demonstrate their talents, creativity, knowledge and skills.

A number of supporting guidance documents will be available in the Autumn and Spring term:

- Guides to the new qualification
- Specification walk-through
- Parents/option evening flyers

- Exam and NEA walk throughs in the summer term of 2025.

Additionally, there will be CPD events including:

- Online briefing in the Autumn term
- Face-to-face day CPD in the Spring term.

2. Becoming an examiner

Becoming an examiner will not only reward you financially but will give you valuable insight into the assessment process whilst enhancing your skills and deepening your understanding of the business specification; all of which can improve your teaching and delivery. You can find out more at the following link:

<http://www.wjec.co.uk/appointees/>.

3. Professional Learning Autumn 2024

During autumn 2024, our Professional Learning programme will include a free online review of the Summer 2024 exam series. This will be a twilight session, 4-6pm, the date will be communicated on our website in the summer term. Don't forget to sign up.

4. Resources

A wide range of resources are available to support GCSE Business. Access these free digital resources on the [Digital Resources website](#) to support the delivery of our Business qualification. Content of this site includes:

Knowledge Organisers: A bank of sample knowledge organisers to support the learning of GCSE Business. These can be used for revision or as a starting point for creating your own knowledge organisers.

Exam Walk Through: Aimed at learners, this Exam Walk Through resource offers practical hints and tips on how to effectively approach questions in the examination paper. Using questions from past exam papers, the PPT with audio help and audio script in the notes will walk candidates through a mock examination paper, helping them revise and practise useful exam techniques.

Blended Learning: These resources contain interactive self-study content. The resource is designed to complement traditional face to face teaching with an online learning pack that allows students to learn at their own pace.

Command Words: A set of command words to give learners clear guidance on what assessment objective is being assessed.

In addition to the online resources, details of books that can be used to help teach our GCSE qualification can be found in this link: [GCSE Business \(wjec.co.uk\)](#).

Online Exam Review: Here you will find a collection of interactive units that bring together a number of elements including general data, exam questions, their marking schemes and examiner comments, which will lead you through a review of exam questions.

Training material from previous CPD events can be accessed here: [GCSE Business \(wjec.co.uk\)](#).

5. Key Dates

Examination dates and other key dates for the upcoming academic year are available in the timetable which can be found in the following link:

[Key Dates & Timetables \(wjec.co.uk\)](https://www.wjec.co.uk/key-dates-timetables)

6. Principal Examiners' reports

Previous Principal Examiners' Reports are available on our [subject page](#). We recommend you read these carefully as they offer helpful observations and commentary on candidates' performance in previous series that could help future learners moving forward.

7. Key documents

There is a wide range of material available on the [Key Documents page](#). This includes the specification, sample assessment material, guidance for teaching, Examiners' reports, course outline, text book order forms, grade boundaries, content checklist, plus other useful documents and links.

8. Past papers and mark schemes

The Summer 2023 papers and mark schemes are available to centres on the [Portal](#). The exam papers are available the day after the end of the exam series and the mark schemes available from results day. These will be put on the open website in July 2024.

9. Facebook group

We have a [Facebook page](#) for teachers delivering WJEC or WJEC Eduqas Business (GCSE & GCE). The group is monitored by Stephen Oliver, WJEC Business subject officer. On this page, teachers are encouraged to share resources, advice and subject-related news to help fellow group members. Please note, content uploaded is not endorsed by WJEC and is the responsibility of the group member. Search on Facebook for WJEC and WJEC Eduqas Business Teacher Network.

10. Why not become an examiner?

Becoming an examiner will not only reward you financially but will give you valuable insight into the assessment process whilst enhancing your skills and deepening your understanding of the business specification; all of which can improve your teaching and delivery.

With the first assessment of the new GCSE in Summer 2026 we will be advertising for examiners and moderators for the new assessment. What better way to get a deeper understanding of the requirements of the new specification.

You can find out more at the following link: <http://www.wjec.co.uk/appointees/>.