

WJEC GCSE Business Newsletter

September 2024

We hope that you had a relaxing break over the Summer period and that you and your students are feeling prepared for the new school year ahead. We have some general and subject-specific updates and information that you may need, or find useful, as you begin this new term.

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1. Latest news

We are excited to launch the new specification for WJEC GCSE Business which is available for centres to start teaching in September 2025. Information can be found on the subject page [GCSE Business | Made for Wales \(wjec.co.uk\)](https://www.wjec.co.uk/gcse-business).

Some key dates for this specification are:

Approved Specification Published: 30th September 2024

Publication of Sample Assessment Materials: 19th December 2024

Guidance for Teaching Published: 31st January 2025

Professional Learning and Material to support the new qualification

PL Type	Aims	Format and Notes
<p>Your Guide to the new specification module</p> <p>Available from end of September 2024</p>	<p>To support your understanding of the specification document.</p>	<p>This asynchronous module will be on the "training on demand" tab of the GCSE business qualification page on the WJEC website. You will need to register to access a link to view.</p>
<p>Parent/Options evening flyers</p> <p>Available from end of September 2024</p>	<p>To support you to provide information to parents and learners before start of study.</p>	<p>This PDF will be published the GCSE business home page.</p>
<p>Live Online Qualification Briefing & Q&A</p> <p>Available 2nd half autumn term 2024.</p> <p>Events are open for registration.</p> <p>Visit the <i>Training</i> tab on your new qualification's webpage to view dates and register.</p> <p>English medium - 5th December 2024 - 3.30pm - 5.00pm</p> <p>Welsh medium - 12th December 2024 - 3.30pm - 5.00pm</p>	<p>To support your understanding of the new qualification, its content and assessment structure. The live event will also refer to resources and upcoming PL and offer an opportunity to put questions to our Subject Teams and specification experts.</p>	<p>These live online events will be advertised on the WJEC website, and you will be required to register via a link. They will be hosted on Teams Live (Townhall).</p> <p>The events will be presented by WJEC Subject Advisors with Q&A support from WJEC Subject Officers. There will be English medium and Welsh medium events (except for English and Welsh qualifications).</p>
<p>* Preparing to Teach (face-to-face)</p> <p>Available from 14/02/25 to 07/04/25</p> <p>Registrations for the Pan Wales INSET days will be collected via your head teacher. No registrations through WJEC's website.</p>	<p>To support teaching the new specification. There will be a focus on understanding the assessments, assessment objectives, content and teaching approaches based on the specification, sample assessment materials and guidance for teaching.</p>	<p>These days take place on designated regional INSET days - there are 12 days in this series held across Wales, including 2 Welsh medium days and 1 bilingual day.</p> <p>These events will be led by WJEC Subject Advisors and our expert presenting teams.</p>
<p>Exam and NEA Walk-throughs</p> <p>Available summer Term 2025</p> <p>Access via the WJEC Portal secure website</p>	<p>To support you and your learners to understand the structure of question papers/NEA briefs, question types, assessment objectives and marking methods.</p>	<p>These pre-recorded PPT will initially be published on the WJEC Portal secure website only.</p>

2. Professional Learning Autumn 2024

On 1st October 2024, we are offering a free online Feedback on Summer 2024 Assessments event. Our assessment feedback is an opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of how assessments are marked. [Details of this event and the option to book can be found in this link.](#)

We are also holding free online events for our new Made for Wales GCSE Business qualification which can be booked online in the following link [GCSE Business | Made for Wales \(wjec.co.uk\)](#).

Your designated regional WJEC face-to-face INSET date (Preparing to Teach) can be found here: [Made-for-Wales GCSEs \(wjec.co.uk\)](#)

3. 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 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 \(wjec.co.uk\)](#). CPD material from more recent CPD events can be found on the [secure portal](#).

4. 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 \(wjec.co.uk\)](#)

5. Principal Examiners' reports

The Summer 2024 interim Principal Examiners' Report is now available on our [subject page](#). The full final report will also be available by the end of September. We recommend you read these carefully as they offer helpful observations and commentary on candidates performance this series that could help future learners moving forward.

6. 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.

7. Past papers and mark schemes

The Summer 2024 papers and mark schemes are now available to centres on the [secure site](#). These will be available on the secure site only until July 2025 in line with our [publication policy](#). From July 2025 they will then be made available on the [public website](#), along with papers and mark schemes for previous years.

8. 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 and Economics 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.

9. Becoming an examiner

As an examiner you will gain an invaluable insight into the assessment process at WJEC, enhance your skill set and also, increase the understanding of your subject. All of which can enhance your teaching. If you are interested in becoming an examiner, find out more information in the following link: <http://www.wjec.co.uk/appointees/>.