Key Stage: 5



Aims of the subject:

- Develop students' appreciation of the business community ranging from a local to a global perspective.
- Encourage students to question the reasoning behind business decisions and to evaluate the alternatives.
- To teach students the importance of being able to articulate their understanding both orally and within written work, making appropriate use of business terminology.

RIPLEY ST THOMAS

A Level Examination Board: AQA

Assessment Overview: A combination of multiple choice, short answer, data response and case study questions.

Course	What will I study?	Assessment
Course Yr 12	What will I study? Term 1 - · What is business? Understanding the nature and purpose of business. Understanding different business forms. Understanding that businesses operate within an external environment. · Managers, leadership and decision making. Understanding management, leadership and decision making. Understanding management decision making. Understanding the role and importance of stakeholders.	Assessment Formal assessment opportunities - appropriate case study in relation to each aspect of specification - Tutor2U. Practice specimen exam papers.
	- Decision making to improve marketing performance.	

Setting marketing objectives. Understanding markets and customers.	
Term 2 - Decision making to improve marketing performance.	
Segmentation, targeting and positioning (STP) Using the marketing mix.	
- Decision making to improve financial performance.	
Setting financial objectives. Analysing financial performance.	
- Decision making to improve Human Resource performance.	
Setting human resource objectives. Analysing human resource performance.	
Term 3 - Decision making to improve financial performance.	
- Decision making to improve mancial performance.	
Sources of finance. Improving cash flow and profits.	
- Decision making to improve Human Resource performance.	
Improving organisational design and human resource flow. Improving motivation and engagement. Improving employer-employee relations.	
- Decision making to improve operational performance.	

	Setting operational objectives. Analysing operational performance. Increasing efficiency and productivity. Improving quality. Managing inventory and supply chains.
Yr 13	Term 1: -Analysing the strategic position of a business
	Mission, corporate objectives and strategy.
	Analysing the existing internal position of a business to assess strengths and weaknesses: financial ratio analysis.
	Analysing existing internal position of a business to assess strengths and weakness: overall performance.
	Analysing the external environment to assess opportunities and threats: political and legal change.
	Analysing the external environment to assess opportunities and threats: economic change.
	Analysing the external environment to assess opportunities and threats: social and technological.
	Analysing the external environment to assess opportunities and threats: the competitive environment.
	Analysing strategic options: investment appraisal.
	-Choosing strategic direction

Strategic direction: choosing which markets to compete in and which products to offer. Strategic positioning: choosing how to compete.	
Term 2:	
-Strategic methods: how to pursue strategies Assessing a change in scale. Assessing innovation. Assessing internationalisation. Assessing greater use of digital technology.	
-Managing strategic change Managing change.	
Term 3:	
-Managing strategic change Managing organisational culture. Managing strategic implementation. Problems with strategy and why strategies fail.	

Enrichment opportunities

- Year 10 PSHE enterprise days
- 'Ripley Apprentice' Open Evening Initiative

Suggestions for wider reading

- Dynamic Learning Magazine Archive (Business Review)
- www.tutor2u.net
- Times 100 Business Case Studies
- BBC Business News
- Reuters Business
- AQA A level Business Malcolm Surridge, Andrew Gillespie