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2016  
*Celebrating  
75 years*

## Business Studies

Business Studies develops skills, knowledge, attitudes and behaviours that enable students to make informed and responsible decisions with all of the resources available to them, ensuring their and society's well-being, while becoming more self-aware as learners. It supports the development of analytical and critical thinking skills, encouraging students to be problem solvers.

The specification for junior cycle business studies focuses on improving students' understanding of the business environment and on developing skills for life, work and further study through the three interconnected strands: **Personal finance, Enterprise and Our economy**.

**Personal finance** focuses on students developing a set of skills, knowledge and values that allows them to make informed decisions to effectively and responsibly manage their financial resources.

**Enterprise** encourages students to identify opportunities and turn them into practical and targeted activities within business and wider society through the development and application of their understanding, skills and values. It develops students' basic understanding of the financial, marketing and operational functions of an organisation.

**Our economy** enables students to understand the dynamic relationship between the local, national and international economic situation. It develops students' ability to identify and understand basic economic concepts as they relate to personal finance, enterprise and the Irish economy.

### Assessment:

The assessment of business studies for the purposes of the Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement (JCPA) will comprise two Classroom-Based Assessments (CBA), Business in Action and Presentation, and a final assessment. The first Classroom-Based Assessment will take place in second year. The second CBA will take place in third year and will have a written Assessment Task that will be marked, along with the final assessment, by the State Examinations Commission. The Assessment Task is 10% of the final exam. The final exam will be one examination paper at common level, set by the State Examinations Commission (SEC). The examination will be no longer than two hours in duration and will take place at the end of third year.

### Link to Senior Cycle

Significantly, there is a strong development of the understanding and skills required for business-related subjects in senior cycle. Mini-company formation, enterprise and social innovation competitions and school bank/credit union feature in the Transition Year (TY) programme of our school. Students also undertake work experience and workplace investigations in TY.

There are strong links to the syllabuses for Leaving Certificate Business, Accounting and Economics, with students building on their financial, business and economic understanding and skills from junior cycle.