Programme of study for Year 13 A Level Business

Autumn (1st term)	Autumn (2nd term)	Spring (1st term)	Spring (2nd Term)	Summer (1st term)	Summer (2nd term)
Topic / Big Question: **3.7 Analysing the strategic position of a business**	Topic / Big Question: **3.8 Choosing the strategic direction**	Topic / Big Question: **3.9 Strategic methods: how to pursue strategies**	Topic / Big Question: **3.10 Managing strategic change**	Topic / Big Question: **How to use models and analyse case studies?** **How to answer case study questions effectively?**	Topic / Big Question: **Past Exam papers**
Skills (students should be able to do): **AO1: Demonstrate knowledge of terms, concepts, theories, methods and models to show an understanding of how individuals and organisations are affected by and respond to business issues** **AO2: Apply knowledge and understanding to various business contexts to show how individuals and organisations are affected by and respond to issues** **AO3: Analyse issues within business, showing an understanding of the impact on individuals and organisations of external and internal influences** **AO4: Evaluate quantitative and qualitative information to make informed judgements and propose evidence-based solutions to business issues.**					
Key Learning Outcomes (students should know): To learn about influences on the mission of a business. To learn about internal and external influences on corporate objectives and decisions. To learn about the links between mission, corporate objectives and strategy. To understand the distinction between strategy and tactics.	Key Learning Outcomes (students should know): To understand factors influencing which markets to compete in and which products to offer. To understand the reasons for choosing and value of different options for strategic direction. To learn about how to compete in terms of benefits and price.	Key Learning Outcomes (students should know): To learn about the pressures of innovation. To understand the value of innovation. To learn about ways of becoming an innovative organisation. To learn about how to protect innovation and intellectual property. To learn about the impact of an innovation strategy on the	Key Learning Outcomes (students should know): To learn about causes of pressures for change. To understand the value of change. To understand the value of flexible organisation. To understand the value of managing information and knowledge. To learn about barriers to change.	Key Learning Outcomes (students should know): Models Formulas Calculation practice Feedback and modelling Case study practice Real business practice	Key Learning Outcomes (students should know): Public exams Paper 1 – 14th May 2025 Paper 2 – 20th May 2025 Paper 3 – 9th June 2025

To learn about the impact of strategic decision making on functional decision making. To learn about internal and external influences on functional objectives and decisions. To understand the value of SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats) analysis. To learn about how to assess the financial performance of a business using balance sheets, income statements and financial ratios. To understand the value of financial ratios when assessing performance. To learn about how to analyse data other than financial statements to assess the strengths and weaknesses of a business. To understand the importance of core competences. To learn about assessing short- and long-term performance.	To learn about influences on the choice of a positioning strategy. To learn about the value of different strategic positioning strategies. To understand the benefits of having a competitive advantage. To understand the difficulties of maintaining a competitive advantage. To understand the reasons why businesses grow or retrench. To understand the difference between organic and external growth. To learn about how to manage issues caused by growth and retrenchment. To learn about the impact of growth or retrenchment on the functional areas of the business. To assess methods and types of growth	functional areas of the business. To learn about reasons for greater globalisation of business. To understand the importance of globalisation for business. To understand the importance of emerging economies for business. To learn about reasons for targeting, operating in and trading with international markets. To understand factors influencing the attractiveness of international markets. To learn about reasons for producing more and sourcing more resources abroad. To learn about ways of entering international markets and value of different methods. To learn about influences on buying, selling and producing abroad. To learn about managing international business.	To learn how to overcome barriers to change. To understand the importance of organisational culture. To learn about the influences on organisational culture. To learn about the reasons for and problems of changing organisational culture. To learn how to implement strategy effectively. To understand the importance of organisational structure in strategic implementation. To understand the value of network analysis in strategic implementation. To learn about difficulties of strategic decision making and implementing strategy. To learn about planned vs emergent strategy. To understand reasons for strategic drift. To evaluate strategic performance. To understand the value of strategic planning.		

The value of different measures of assessing business performance. To learn about the impact of changes in the political and legal environment on strategic and functional decision making. To learn about the impact of changes in the UK and the global economic environment on strategic and functional decision making. To learn about the impact of the social and technological environment on strategic and functional decision making. To learn about the pressures for socially responsible behaviour. To learn about Porter's five forces, how and why these might change, and the implications of these forces for strategic and functional decision making and profits. To understand financial methods of assessing an investment.		To learn about the pressures to adopt digital technology. To understand the value of digital technology	To learn about the value of contingency planning and crisis management.		

To learn about the factors influencing investment decisions.					

Autumn Term – centrally planned, standardised and teacher marked piece(s) of work 3.7 – 9 mark question 3.10 – 9 mark question 3.10 - Tutor2u assessment 3.7 – Tutor2u assessment	Spring Term – centrally planned, standardised and teacher marked piece(s) of work 3.8 – 16 mark question 3.9 – 16 mark question 3.8 Tutor2u assessment 3.9 Tutor2u assessment	Summer Term – centrally planned, standardised and teacher marked piece(s) of work Mock Paper 1 Mock Paper 2 Mock Paper 3

Building understanding: Rationale / breakdown for your sequence of lessons:
We follow guidance from AQA exam board and students learn 6 units in Year 12 which is equivalent to AS Level and in Year 13 students complete additional 4 units to complete the full A Level course. The units are sequenced to build upon knowledge, and this focuses more on strategic methods and strategic direction of businesses.

Home – Learning: MCQ questions & reading	Home – Learning: MCQ questions & reading	Home – Learning: MCQ questions & reading	Home – Learning: Past exam papers	Home – Learning: Past exam papers	Home – Learning: Past exam papers

Reading / High Quality Text: AQA Business textbook (Wolinski & Coates), Business review (hard copies in library), business websites and case studies.
Full recommended reading list provided to students and students are encouraged to read / watch news as flipped learning.

Numeracy:
Numeracy skills are intertwined into lessons and recall via ROCK activities. Students are given calculation booklets to ensure they practice numerical questions and apply correct formula.

Enrichment / opportunities to develop cultural capital (including careers, WRL and SMSC):

Business Studies allows students to build cultural capital and leadership skills as well as put theory from lessons into practice. In each unit, various careers are discussed and HR is focussed on the importance of people and why it is important for businesses to have diverse workforce.

Our hope is for FHS Business students to become informed consumers, employees, managers, and entrepreneurs of the future. The transferable skills gained through studying business would equip them to enter a wide range of careers. Studying business will lead to students becoming more informed citizens, consumers, employees, future employers and entrepreneurs. Studying Business can lead to specific job roles in:
● Business Development ● Marketing ● Recruitment ● Banking and finance ● Administration ● Accounting and Finance ●

Enrichment is promoted in lessons and students have the opportunity to attend careers fairs and talks from speakers for schools to learn about various businesses and roles.