



Junior Certificate

Fact Sheet

Business Studies



Business Studies helps you to make **more** informed decisions in the everyday business of living. It gives you a better understanding of the world of work. It encourages you to think about how and why people start up in business and why you too might also consider starting a business.

What will I learn in Business Studies?

Some of the things you will learn include:

- good communication skills such as letter writing and report writing
- how to collect, organise, and record financial information for yourself, your family, for clubs you may be a member of, and for businesses you may be employed with in the future
- what your rights and responsibilities are as a consumer (someone who buys or uses goods and services - that's you!)
- how to calculate your wages when you start working (including the minimum wage)
- about why our membership of the European Union is so important to our economy.

How will I learn Business Studies in St. Louis?

Some of the things you may do with your teacher and your classmates are:

- form a club in class to learn what it is like to be a club member
- prepare advertisements for different events to learn more about sales promotions
- practise recording transactions
- keep records of your pocket money or wages from part-time work
- learn about the benefits of saving
- take part in a mini-company enterprise as part of an out-of-class activity.

How can I learn more about Business Studies outside of St. Louis?

Some of the things you may do are:

- discuss with family members how the household money is spent and help them get better value for their money by doing price surveys for food, mobile phones, insurance etc.
- listen to the business news reports or read the business section of a newspaper
- be more aware of how you make use of your pocket money or part-time job wages
- compete in business quizzes/mini-company competitions
- make use of a route planner to help your family plan your holidays.

How will I know how I am getting on?

Your teacher will let you know:

- what you have done well
- how you can improve your work.

Will Business Studies have anything to do with other subjects I will be studying?

Yes there are links with Mathematics, English, Geography and Home Economics. ICT skills will also be of use to you in Business Studies.



Is learning Business Studies anything like what I did in primary school?

The work you did in English will be a good help to you in letter and report writing. Your mathematics skills will help you to calculate wages, exchange rates, interest on savings and the cost of loans. Your knowledge of Ireland and the European Union from Geography (SESE) will also be of use to you in Business Studies.



Will Business Studies be very different after the Junior Certificate?

Three subjects follow on from Junior Certificate Business Studies in Leaving Certificate: Accounting, Business, and Economics. Each one becomes more specific and allows you to concentrate more on the subject area you choose. If you wish to study any of these subjects for the Leaving Certificate, it would be advantageous for you to have studied Junior Certificate Business Studies.

What is the Business Studies Junior Certificate exam like?

Ordinary level students are required to sit one written exam. They are required to answer twenty short answer questions and five long answer questions.

Higher level students are required to sit two written exams. Paper I examines students on household and personal questions, which consists of twenty short answer questions and four long questions. Paper II examines students from a business perspective and consists of four long questions.

You can take the exam at Higher or at Ordinary level. When the time comes to decide, your teacher will help you choose the level that suits you best.

How will Business Studies be useful to me?

Business Studies helps you to make wise decisions about saving and spending your money now and throughout your life. You will learn about the world of work which will introduce you to many possible careers such as: accountancy, finance, sales, marketing, and management. It also gives you a good foundation for the three Leaving Certificate business subjects.



For more information about the Business Studies course offered in St. Louis Community School please contact us on:
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This fact sheet and other fact sheets are available to download from www.ncca.ie