

St. Nathy's College

Subject Department Plan

Leaving Certificate Business

2010 - 2011

Subject Aims :

- To contribute to a balanced and appropriate general education, leading to the personal and social development of students through a study of business and enterprise.
- To encourage initiative and self-reliance in each student.
- To develop a clear understanding of the role of enterprise, to encourage the development of appropriate enterprise learning skills, and to generate in students a positive and ethical attitude to enterprise in personal, business and public life.
- To develop a critical understanding of the overall environment in which business functions.
- To help prepare students for participation in a changing business environment for adult and working life and also as a basis for further education.

Subject Objectives :

- To develop students' literacy, numeracy, problem-solving and communication skills and to develop an attention to detail in the presentation of information.
- To develop an understanding of the structures, institutions, processes and management of business.
- To enable students to make informed business decisions.
- To enable students to use established commercial principles and knowledge, to critically evaluate commercial information, and to offer solutions to given commercial problems.
- To promote a positive awareness of cultural and social diversity in international business.
- To enable students to understand and appreciate ethics in business.

Subject Co-ordinator : Mr. B. Foy

Subject Teachers : Mr. B. Foy

Time Allocation :

	Subject Band	Teacher	Class Time (per week)
Fourth Year	Band 4	Mr. B. Foy	3 hr
Leaving Cert	Band 2	Mr. B. Foy	3 hr 5 min

Options Structure :

Classes are generally of mixed ability - Higher Level course is pursued until the Mock Examinations in Leaving Cert year - following this students wishing to follow Ordinary Level course can do so through studying examination papers.

Timetabling :

Fourth Year - five class periods per week (1 double, 3 singles)
Leaving Cert - six class periods per week (1 double, 4 singles)

Grouping of Students :

Fourth Year - students are allocated to their class groups based on their subject choices
- classes are generally of mixed ability
Leaving Cert - students remain in the same class group as in Fourth Year.

Student Access to Subject/Level :

Fourth Year - students choose from a range of subjects, of which Business is one. This choice is made towards the end of Third Year. There is no restriction on access to the subject. Parents sign a form acknowledging their child's choice of subject. Generally, all students who choose the subject are accommodated.

Class Organisation :

Subject is taught in general classrooms, with one seat behind each desk with desks in pairs, or two seats behind one table. This arrangement encourages paired work if required, and allows for group work, as tables and chairs are not in fixed positions.

Textbooks :

Textbook : Business Today by Pat McLoughlin/Peter Caldwell, published by EDCO.

Sufficient for both years of the course.

Cross - Curricular Planning :

There are links between Business and the following subjects :

- Leaving Cert Vocational Programme - Enterprise Education
- Preparation for the World of Work
- Home Economics - Consumer Education
- Geography - Global Business

Curriculum Content :

Year One (Fourth Year)

- Unit 1 - People in Business
- Unit 2 - Enterprise
- Unit 3 - Managing 1
- Unit 4 - Managing 2

Year Two (Leaving Cert year)

- Unit 5 - Business in Action
- Unit 6 - Domestic Environment
- Unit 7 - International Environment

- Applied Business Question
- Section A Questions
- Examination Questions.

Effective Teaching Methodologies :

- Brainstorming

- Portfolio Preparation
- Group Discussions
- Daily Newspapers
- Radio/ Television - Business News, Business Programmes
- Portfolio of Case Studies
- Stock Exchange Reports
- Paired Work
- Visitors In (in conjunction with LCVP)
- Project Work.

Planning for Students with Special Needs :

Students with special needs are allowed to study the subject - school policy allows for provision of readers, tapes etc. at the State Examinations.

Students with laptop computers are facilitated in classrooms.

Special Needs Assistants accompany students in classrooms.

Subject Planning for a Culturally Diverse Society :

Students from non-English speaking countries are allowed to choose the subject. School policy arranges for students with very little English to spend one year learning English only, before allowing them to enter classes to study other subjects.

Provision for Health and Safety Requirements :

- School's general policy re Health and Safety - Safety Statement
- Classroom telephones allowing instant access to general Office
- School Journals - allowing contact between school and parents, and outlining school policy on Health and Safety
- Accident/Incident Report Sheet
- Provision of information to staff concerning any conditions that a student in a teacher's class may have
- Fire drills.