

Year 13 A Level Business Studies (AQA) Curriculum Learning Journey

Year	What is taught? Overview of Topics		Purpose			
13	3.7 Analysing the strategic position of a business 3.8 Choosing strategic direction 3.9 Strategic methods: how to pursue strategies 3.10 Managing strategic change		Building on the foundation of Year 12, to consider strategic decision making and external influences, underpinned with business examples and models. Topics 3.7 to 3.10 demonstrate the holistic nature of business, drawing on the business essentials from Year 12. Developing the tactical decision making covered in Year 12 to strategic decision making in Year 13. Develop application to a variety of contexts, including external factors. Also develop critical thinking and consideration of real business scenarios. Gain holistic understanding of business in a range of contexts. Develop an understanding of organisations place in society.			
Subject and Year Group	Autumn Year 13	Autumn 2 Year 13	Spring 1 Year 13	Spring 2 Year 13	Summer 1 Year 13	Summer 2 Year 13
Topic/Unit to be studied	Teacher 1: 3.7 Analysing the strategic position of a business Teacher 2: 3.8 Choosing strategic direction		Teacher 1: 3.7 Analysing the strategic position of a business (part 2) Teacher 2: 3.9 Strategic methods: how to pursue strategies Teacher 2: 3.10 Managing strategic change		Paper 3 Preparation and focused development of exam technique	
Core Knowledge and skills	Teacher 1: 3.7 Analysing the strategic position of a business Mission, ratio analysis, core competences, assessing performance, political and legal environment, economic change, globalisation, CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility), social and technological change, competitive environment and investment appraisal.				Consolidation of business models from throughout the curriculum.	

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	Autumn Year 13	Autumn 2 Year 13	Spring 1 Year 13	Spring 2 Year 13	Summer 1 Year 13	Summer 2 Year 13
	Teacher 2: 3.8 Choosing strategic direction Strategic direction, strategic positioning, competitive advantage		Teacher 2: 3.9 Strategic methods: how to pursue strategies Assessing a change in scale, economies of scale, methods of growth, innovation, intellectual property, internationalisation, digital technology intellectual property.	Teacher 2: 3.9 con and 3.10 Managing strategic change 3.9 internationalisation, digital technology Managing change, flexible organisation, barriers to change, organisational culture, network analysis.	Teacher 1: Financial and Economic skills Application of financial and current economic conditions to real life businesses. Teacher 2: 3.10 Managing strategic change Strategic drift, contingency planning	
Models covered	Porter's Five Forces, Elkington's Triple Bottom Line, Carroll's CSR Pyramid, Ansoff's Matrix, Porter's low cost, differentiation and focus strategies, Porter's Five Forces			Lewin's Forcefield Handy's Culture	Rapid Recall of all business models from throughout the course. Focus on business models.	
Assessment	Summative: Teacher 1: Topic 3.7 (Learning Cycle 1 Assessment) October 2026 Formative: Ratio analysis calculations. Multichoice and 9 mark exam questions. PPE 2 Summative: PPE assessments 2026. Paper 1 and 2		Summative: Teacher 2: Topic 3.9 Assessment questions Learning Cycle 2 2027 Formative: MCQs (Multiple Choice Questions) assessment (peer assessment) Summative: Topic 3.10 End of Topic (Learning Cycle 3 Assessment) March 2027 Formative: Models assessment (self-assessment)		PPE 3 Summative: LC 3 assessment Paper 3 exam (March 2027), covering all theory from Topics 3.1 to 3.10. Paper 1 and Paper 2	