



# Purpose statement

**NCFE Level 1/2 Technical Award in Business  
and Enterprise  
QN: 603/2955/5**

## **Who is this qualification for?**

This qualification is designed for learners who want an introduction to business and enterprise that includes a vocational and project-based element. The qualification will appeal to learners who wish to pursue a career in the business and enterprise sector or progress to further study.

The NCFE Level 1/2 Technical Award in Business and Enterprise complements GCSE qualifications. It is aimed at 14–16 year olds studying Key Stage 4 curriculum who are interested in the business and enterprise industry sector. This qualification is designed to match the rigour and challenge of GCSE study. The qualification is graded at Level 1 Pass/Merit/Distinction/Distinction\* and Level 2 Pass/Merit/Distinction/Distinction\* (equivalent to GCSE grades 8.5–1). More information on grading can be found in this qualification specification in Section 2.

This Level 1/2 qualification is appropriate for learners who are looking to develop a significant core of knowledge and understanding in business and enterprise and how to apply their learning.

This qualification has been designed to sit alongside the requirements of core GCSE subjects and is appropriate for learners who are motivated and challenged by learning through hands-on experiences and through content which is concrete and directly related to those experiences.

It is distinct from GCSE Business Studies, as it encourages the learner to use knowledge and practical enterprise tools to prepare them for business. They will develop significant personal and vocational business skills that can be transferred to further study or employment.

The study of business and enterprise involves understanding key business and enterprise areas such as, legal structures, marketing, market research, operations management, resource planning, human resources, funding, finance and business and enterprise planning.

The qualification focuses on an applied study of the business and enterprise sector and learners will gain a broad understanding and knowledge of working in the sector.

## **What will the learner study as part of this qualification?**

This qualification shows learners how to:

- understand entrepreneurial characteristics and business aims and objectives
- legal structures, organisational structures and stakeholder engagement
- understand the marketing mix, market research, market types and orientation types
- understand operations management
- understand internal and external influences on business
- understand research, resource planning and growth for business
- understand human resource requirements for a business start-up
- understand sources of enterprise funding and business finance
- understand business and enterprise planning.

## **What knowledge and skills will the learner develop as part of this qualification and how might these be of use and value in further studies?**

Learners will develop skills and knowledge:

- in adapting their own ideas and responding to feedback

- in evaluating their own work
- analysing data and making decisions that are essential for the business and enterprise sector, such as evaluation skills; responding to data; independent working; working to deadlines; efficient use of resources.

The knowledge and skills gained will provide a secure foundation for careers in the business and enterprise sector.

### **Which subjects will complement this course?**

The following GCSE subject areas will complement this qualification by further broadening application of skills in the context of business and enterprise:

- economics
- accounting
- maths
- English
- geography

This list is not exhaustive and a range of other subject areas may also be appropriate.

**This qualification is not part of a subject suite.**

### **Progression opportunities - what could this qualification lead to?**

Depending on the grade the learner achieves in this qualification, they could progress onto Level 2 and Level 3 qualifications and/or GCSE/A Levels.

Learners who achieve at **Level 1** might consider progression to Level 2 qualifications post-16 such as:

- a GCSE in Business Studies.
- study at Level 2 in a range of technical routes that have been designed for progression to employment, apprenticeships and further study. Examples might include Level 2 Technical Certificates in:
  - Accounting
  - Accounting and Business
  - Business Administration
  - Business and Enterprise
  - Customer Service Operations
  - Business Support

Technical certificate qualifications provide post-16 learners with the knowledge and skills they need for skilled employment or for further technical study.

Learners who achieve at **Level 2** might consider progression to Level 3 qualifications post-16 such as:

- Level 3 Applied Generals in:
  - Enterprise and Entrepreneurship
  - Financial Studies
  - Business and Enterprise
  - Applied Business
  - Business.

Level 3 Applied General qualifications prepare learners for progression to higher education in the business and enterprise sector:

- Level 3 Technical Levels in:
  - Coordinating Business Support
  - Business: Marketing.

Level 3 Technical Level qualifications prepare learners for progression into employment or onto an Apprenticeship through specialising in a technical occupation in the business and enterprise sector. Technical Level qualifications provide post-16 learners with the knowledge and skills they need for skilled employment or for further technical study.

- A Level in Business. This will support progression to higher education.
- Learners could also progress into employment or onto an apprenticeship.

The understanding and skills gained through this qualification could be useful to progress onto an Apprenticeship in Business Administration through a variety of occupations which are available within sectors such as a Finance, Marketing or Human Resources.