

B I S H O P



R A M S E Y

Church of England School
Headteacher: Mr A J Wilcock MA (Cantab)

18th December 2013

Dear Parent/Carer

Business Studies GCSE Unit 2 Controlled Assessment

Business Studies GCSE External Assessment is undertaken in 3 stages. Firstly, the students complete an internally assessed piece of written work for Unit 2 'Investigating a Small Business' which is under Controlled Assessment procedures. Following this in the June examination series they will take a 45 minute examination for Unit 1 'Introduction to Small Business'. Each of these two assessments represents 25% of the overall GCSE mark and together 50%. Also in June, the students will sit a further examination Unit 3 worth 50% of the overall GCSE which will be assessed by means of a 90 minute examination.

The Unit 2 'Investigating a Small Business' will start on 20th January 2014.

Controlled Assessment is a relatively new government GCSE requirement which requires the students to work supervised but independently. The Unit 2 Controlled Assessment has 2 elements:

- The research phase – approximately three weeks of curriculum time (a maximum of six hours is suggested, of which some will be done in ICT classes but some may be done at home).
- The write-up phase – a maximum of three hours, essentially three class lessons, in strictly supervised and invigilated circumstances.

In preparation for this assessment the students have been given a list of five possible tasks they can attempt. These are provided by the examination board and can be downloaded at:-

<http://www.edexcel.com/quals/gcse/gcse09/Business/Business/Pages/default.aspx>

They are also expected to apply this task to a suitable known small business of their choice. This business should ideally be one that both you and the student are familiar with and can access to provide data for suitable primary research. Please discuss both the task and a possible business with your child to ensure that both the task and business is suitable and accessible.



Hume Way • Ruislip • Middlesex HA4 8EE • Telephone: 01895 639227 • Facsimile: 01895 622429

email: office@bishopr RamseySchool.org • www.bishopr RamseySchool.org

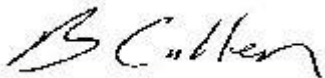
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Please note the following:-

- There will be a short gap between the research and write up stages (time to be determined).
- The students will be expected to have both electronic and hard copy research materials available for the start of the write up stage.
- The 'Write Up' stage will be typed up using a computer.

Should you have any questions on this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me after Christmas or any of the Business Studies subject teachers.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Carter', written in a cursive style.

(cc)

Mr D Carter
Head of Business Studies and Economics