

### Sixth Form Transition Work

#### Welcome to your BTEC National Certificate in Business

This course will help you understand how businesses operate in the real world — from how they are structured to how they make decisions that affect millions of customers. To prepare you for your studies, here are three research tasks focused on some of the UK's biggest companies.

---

#### Task 1: Explore Three Large UK Businesses

**Objective:** Research key facts about three well-known UK businesses.

- Choose **three large UK companies**. Examples include:
    - Tesco
    - Marks & Spencer
    - BP
    - Barclays
    - Sainsbury's
    - British Airways
  - For each company, research and write down:
    - What kind of business it is (retail, energy, finance, etc.)
    - How many people it employs (approximate number)
    - One interesting fact about the company (e.g., when it started, where it operates, or a recent news event)
- 

#### Task 2: The Impact of One Business on Different Groups

**Objective:** Understand the impact of a large business on its stakeholders using recent research.

- Pick **one** of the companies you researched in Task 1.
- Identify **three groups of people** (stakeholders) that this business affects. For example: customers, employees, suppliers, shareholders, local communities.
- For each group, write a short paragraph (3-5 sentences) explaining **one way the business affects them**, either positively or negatively.

## BTEC National Extended Certificate in Business

- Use information from **recent news articles, official company reports, or trusted business websites** to support your points. Be sure to mention where you found your information.
  - Example paragraph:  
“Tesco employs over 300,000 people in the UK, providing job opportunities and training programmes. However, recent news reports have highlighted some employee concerns about working conditions during busy periods (Source: BBC News, 2024).”
- 

### Task 3: How Do These Companies Compete and Stay Successful?

**Objective:** Learn about competition and business strategies in the UK.

- Pick **one** of your three companies.
  - Research how it stays successful against competitors. Consider:
    - What makes it different or special? (e.g., low prices, quality products, wide choice)
    - How it advertises or markets itself
    - Any recent changes it has made to improve or grow
  - Write a short paragraph summarizing what you found.
- 

### Recommended Resources for Research

- **Websites:**
  - Tutor2u Business — great for simple business explanations and case studies
  - BBC Bitesize Business — clear and easy-to-understand notes
  - Companies House — official info on UK businesses
  - BBC News Business — for up-to-date news articles
- **Documentaries & Case Studies:**
  - “*Supermarket Deals: How Good Are They*” – Panorama investigates the authenticity of supermarket promotions amid the ongoing cost-of-living crisis.
  - “*The Great Charity Scandal*” — C4 Dispatches raises questions about transparency and accountability in the charity sector.
  - “*The Great Amazon Heist*” — Channel 4 infiltrates one of Amazon's largest fulfilment centres in the UK to expose the working conditions faced by employees.