



Rewarding Learning

GCSE
Learning for
Life and Work

STUDENT
GUIDE

INTRODUCTION

Learning for Life and Work explores local and global issues, and investigates cultural diversity and the challenges and opportunities this brings to our society. By studying this subject, you can develop your skills to support you in thinking and acting independently.

Studying Learning for Life and Work can provide preparation for future employment, as you will study the skills, qualities and attitudes required for a successful career, how employers assess candidates' suitability for a particular job and how to prepare for an interview.

You will explore the role of the entrepreneur in starting up a business. The course will also help you to plan for your personal career and consider lifelong learning benefits.

WHY STUDY LEARNING FOR LIFE AND WORK?

In studying Learning for Life and Work, you will learn about topics such as diversity and inclusion, causes of conflict, human rights and social responsibility.

This subject will develop your knowledge and understanding of living a healthy lifestyle, impacts on health, having a healthy mind, healthy relationships and a positive concept of self. You will also study personal safety, and how to manage a budget and make financial decisions based on analysing information available to you.

As well as learning how to prepare for an interview and what employers are looking for, you will also study employment contracts and terms and conditions of employment. It will inform you about what is expected of you as an employee, as well as the responsibilities of the employer.



UNIQUE FEATURES OF THIS QUALIFICATION?

This specification is a unitised course. There is now only one controlled assessment task, submitted at the end of the second year of the course.

There are a number of topics covered in this qualification that you will find beneficial to you in everyday life:

- democracy and active participation – ways in which young people can participate in democratic processes and the benefits of this participation for the young person and for society;
- benefits and misuse of social media – making young people consider the risks, as well as the opportunities, of using social networking online;
- making informed financial decisions – protecting against fraud and identity theft, comparison websites, and financial advice and consumer protection;
- employment – skills shortages, emerging careers resulting from globalisation, codes of conduct in the workplace, work-related stress and roles of trade unions;
- social responsibility of businesses – how businesses can demonstrate social responsibility and the benefits of this to their business; and
- self-employment – importance of an entrepreneur carrying out research before starting up a business.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

UNIT	AREAS OF STUDY
Unit 1: Local and Global Citizenship	This unit covers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • diversity and inclusion; • rights and responsibilities; • government and civil society; • democratic institutions; • democracy and active participation; and • the role of NGOs.
Unit 2: Personal Development	This unit covers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • personal health and well-being; • emotions and reactions to life experiences; • relationships and sexuality; • personal safety and well-being; • responsible parenting; and • making informed financial decisions.
Unit 3: Employability	This unit covers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the impact of globalisation on employment; • preparing for employment; • rights and responsibilities of employers and employees; • social responsibility of businesses; • exploring self-employment; and • personal career management.
Unit 4: Investigation (Controlled Assessment Task)	You will complete one task from a choice of three. The task involves the following: Planning, Research, Communicating Findings, Self-Evaluation and Presentation of Task.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

UNIT	ASSESSMENT DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
Unit 1: Local and Global Citizenship	External written examination 1 hour	20%
Unit 2: Personal Development	External written examination 1 hour	20%
Unit 3: Employability	External written examination 1 hour	20%
Unit 4: Investigation (Controlled Assessment Task)	Controlled assessment	40%



Unit 1
Local and
Global Citizenship

20%



Unit 2
Personal
Development

20%



Unit 3
Employability

20%



Unit 4
Investigation

40%

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?



This qualification will help you gain valuable skills that can lead to further study at Advanced level in a range of subjects, for example GCE Business Studies, GCE Professional Business Services, GCE Government and Politics or GCE Health and Social Care.

Applying the range of skills that you will gain through studying this subject will be of benefit, as you can use them in a variety of careers – skills such as carrying out research; participating in discussions, debates and interviews; making financial decisions; using ICT; working with others; analysing information to make and justify a decision; and creating reports or presentations.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH A QUALIFICATION IN LEARNING FOR LIFE AND WORK?

Studying Learning for Life and Work can lead to careers in accounting, banking, retail, research, human resources, health and social care, government, small business and to self-employment as an entrepreneur.

