



Overview

In 2026, Barker will offer the Accelerated Business Studies course for Year 10 students wishing to extend their knowledge and understanding of Business Studies and who have the capacity and motivation to succeed in this rigorous course.

The course will be completed over two years with students sitting the HSC examination at the end of Year 11 (2027). For the appropriate candidate, this is an excellent opportunity to experience the rigors of HSC study while still in Year 10. It will also allow students who have shown a flair for Commerce in Year 9 to undertake advanced studies. However, Commerce is not a pre-requisite course. Students in Year 10 may study both Commerce and Accelerated Business Studies.

The Accelerated Business Studies course will provide students with increased academic challenges through both blended learning and extension opportunities, that include greater academic complexity and open-ended inquiry. The course will follow the HSC Business Studies syllabus but will be designed to suit the needs of advanced learners. This will allow for some curriculum compaction to allow time to focus on more complex and abstract aspects of the course.

Students entering Year 10 in 2026 must apply to undertake this course paying attention to the following criteria:

- A proven record of high achievement. Expected A grades in English, Maths, Commerce (where applicable)
- Learner Agency above "Meeting Expectations"
- Students will be required to attend some sessions outside of the normal school timetable

Students will apply through Canvas completing a short survey and a response related to a business stimulus question.

It is expected that once a student is accepted into this course, they will commit to and continue the course through to its completion at the end of Year 11.

Contact:

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FAQs

What type of learner is best suited for the Accelerated HSC Business Studies course?

Demonstration of a strong commitment to studies in the Middle School through school reports, approaches to learning, and subject marks.

Demonstration of a high level of personal organisation, persistence, commitment, independence, flexibility and a high level of motivation to learn, including a capacity to learn in a blended learning situation.

While not a pre-requisite, strong performance in Commerce in Year 9 will be highly regarded.

Am I able to drop this course if I find the workload too much?

Students who commence this course will be expected to complete the two-year course. This means that students will need to be very clear of the expectations being placed on them. The School will support students to meet these expectations.

Following consultation with the Head of Commercial Studies, students placed in this course will be reviewed during Term 1.

I have a busy co-curricular schedule, how will I manage these commitments and this course if classes are scheduled at the same time as my co-curricular activity?

It is anticipated that students undertaking this course will have a manageable co-curricular load that will allow them to complete learning activities as part of their weekly routine.

Students who have several co-curricular commitments may not be suitable for this course.

By taking this HSC course in Year 10 and Year 11, does that mean I can do fewer units in Year 12?

Students taking this pathway will be required to study a minimum of ten (10) units when they are in their Year 12 year. This means they will have accumulated at least 12 units for their HSC and ATAR. Taking this course is not designed to provide a significantly reduced workload in Year 12 (i.e. 8 units).

Will I sit the HSC examination for this course at the same time as the Year 12 Business Studies students?

Yes, Year 10 2026 students completing this two-year course will sit the HSC Business Studies examination in 2027, at the same time as Year 12 2027 Business Studies students.

How will I be supported in independent learning?

Students will be given guidance in developing effective independent skills.

Students will be supported through a range of blended learning tools including Canvas, Teams and OneNote.

How will my progress be monitored?

Your progress will be monitored by your teacher and the Head of Department.