

Topic 2.5.1c Different ways of working

Key Vocabulary

Full time work – 35-40 hours per week

Part-time – less than 35 hours and usually predictable hours /days

Flexible hours – where days and hours vary from week to week

Zero hour contract – a type of flexible working where employees are not guaranteed any work from week to week

Freelance contract – an agreement over one job between a business and a self-employed worker

Permanent contract – an agreement between a business and an employee that work and income will be provided consistently into the long-term future

Remote working – working away from the office, typically at home

Temporary contract – an agreement between a business and an employee that work and income will be provided for a specific time period, e.g. six months

Core Knowledge

3 main types of employment: full-time, part-time and flexible hours

3 main types of contract: permanent, temporary and freelance

Benefits of a full or part-time contract are:

- Stable earnings and high degree of job security
- Regular contributions towards pension
- Likely to receive holiday and sick pay, providing more security
- More likely to be sent on training courses to improve skills

The impact of technology:

- Has made it easier to work with people without being physically close to them
- Can be used to monitor staff, e.g. productivity, breaks, accuracy
- Can be used to improve efficiency by doing repetitive jobs more consistently and accurately
- Remote working has pros and cons – a lack of natter and banter could mean good ideas are missed

Don't be a "man on the street"

- Remember not all self employed people are super rich and successful entrepreneurs
- Self-employed workers will not get holiday pay, sick pay or contributions by their employer into their pension
- Flexible working may sound ideal to some, but for others it would not work. Don't assume everyone wants to work as little as possible!



Wider Business World

Remote working – due to COVID-19 there has been a huge increase in people working this way

Amazon – reputation for poor working conditions with excessive monitoring

Brompton bikes – uses automation and robotics alongside skilled workers



Synoptic Links

Technology – has enabled more remote working and can contribute to improvements in efficiency

Recruitment – the type of contract offered may impact where and how the vacancy is advertised

Training – more likely for permanent staff