

A LEVEL ECONOMICS



WHY ECONOMICS?

Economics is a relevant, intellectually, stimulating subject. You will learn how to apply economic theory to the analysis of “real world” economic issues such as:

- How are prices are determined?
- Why is water cheap / gold expensive?
- The justification and impact of the sugar tax
- The global economic impact of Covid 19
- What economic policies can be followed to help create jobs or reduce inflation?
- How we attempt to control the negative aspects of economic growth such as pollution?

Economics is very topical subject.

Governments are very often elected on their economic policies. You will be a much better informed citizen having studied Economics at A Level and will be able to analyse the policies put forward and hence cast your vote more wisely.

OUR APPROACH TO TEACHING AND LEARNING

We use a range of cooperative and independent methods to assist your learning depending on the topic area. Sometimes you will be listening to a teacher explaining an economic concept sometimes you will be taking notes. On other occasions you will be working in pairs or in small groups brainstorming ideas.

Key skills you will be developing are the ability to analyse and interpret data, constructing and interpreting graphs, applying economic concepts and evaluating arguments.

- Ongoing completion of homework, reading around the topics and revision is key to success.
- We use high-quality learning materials including revision materials which our students value highly.

A LEVEL ASSESSMENT

Students will be assessed by three written examinations in the summer of year 2, each exam is 2 hours and the papers will feature a range of question styles including:

- multiple choice questions
- short answer questions

- essay questions
- data response questions
- case studies

Paper 1 – Markets and Market Failure (Micro)

Paper 2 – The National and International Economy (Macro)

Paper 3 – Synoptic (all areas of the two year course brought together)

PROGRESSION OPPORTUNITIES

Whether you opt to continue in education at a higher level or choose to enter the world of work Economics allows you to access a wide range of options. You may choose to progress onto a degree course in Economics, but Economics A level is also highly regarded by university selectors for other related subjects due to the strong development of analytical and evaluative skills.

You may choose to pursue a career in a directly related field such as banking or finance. The A-level course in Economics will stand you in good stead by giving you an insight and understanding of the economic forces that impact your day to day activities. Alternatively, you may decide to follow a career path which isn't directly related to your course of study. The analytical and evaluation skills that you will have developed will be useful whatever path you choose in the future.

It is a highly regarded and rigorous academic subject.

YEAR 1

In the first year students are introduced to the two sides of economics micro and macro.

Component 1 – Micro Economics - The Operation of Markets and Market Failure

Looking at how scarce resources are allocated in the economy, how markets function. How prices are set. What happens when markets fail?

Component 2 – Macro Economics – The National Economy in a Global Context

Studying the goals governments set for the economy such as inflation levels, unemployment, pace of economic growth. How the government uses policies to achieve these goals and where conflicts appear.

How it's assessed

Internal examinations at the end of the first year. Both exams have a combination of multiple choice questions and longer data response questions requiring students to analyse and evaluate economic issues.



ENTRY AND SKILL REQUIREMENTS

What are the entry requirements for A Level Economics?

A GCSE score of 6 in English Language and Mathematics

General course entry requirements in line with the College policy.

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