

AS and A2 Economics

Board and Syllabus: AQA

Objectives and Nature of the Course

Throughout the course we aim to develop students' awareness of the national and international economic environment and, through discussion, encourage an understanding of the important link between macro-economic variables. In the micro-economic topics we would expect students to develop an analytical approach to essay writing and through practice learn how to tackle MCQ papers effectively. It is often helpful in this respect for students to have a respectable Maths background.

Course Content

Economics will be taught by two teachers (four periods per week each). The three AS modules will be taken at the end of the Lower 6th and module 4 in the January of the Upper 6th. Modules 5 and 6 (along with any resits) will be taken at the end of the course. Summary of subject content is given below.

AS Modules

Module 1 – Markets and Market Failure

- The Economic Problem
- Allocation of Resources in Competitive Markets
- Monopoly
- Production and Efficiency
- Market Failure
- Government Intervention in the Market

Module 2 – The National Economy

- Performance of the UK Economy and Government Policy Objectives
- How the Macroeconomy works
- Main Instruments of Government Macroeconomic Policy

Module 3 – Markets at Work

- Either* ▪ The Housing Market
Or ▪ The Environment
Or ▪ The Economics of Sport and Leisure

A2 Modules

Module 4 – Working as an Economist

- Either* ▪ Case Study on the European Union
Or ▪ Coursework on any area of Economics

Module 5 – Business Economics and the Distribution of Income

- Theory of the Firm
- Competitive Markets
- Concentrated Markets
- The Labour Market
- Government Intervention in the Market

Module 6 – Government Policy, the National and International Economy

- Growth of the Economy and Cyclical Instability
- Inflation and Unemployment
- Managing the National Economy
- The International Economy

General

The Department currently comprises three members of staff. We are fortunate to have a wide variety of video material to support many teaching topics, as well as 'syllabus' support material (past papers, Economist magazines and newspapers.)