



Subject: ECONOMICS

Exam Board: AQA

Levels available: as (1 Year) and A2 (Additional 2nd Year)

Subject Leader: Mrs S Turnbull

Course Information:

*** What do I need to know or be able to do before choosing this subject?**

You do **not** need to have studied the subject at GCSE level but you are expected to have good grades in some of the subjects which you did sit at GCSE. The subject has a lot of success at A-level with 100% pass rates in each of the past 11 years, and a very high proportion of A to C grades.

*** What does the course consist of and how will I be assessed?**

The AS (Advanced Subsidiary) Specification

This is the first half of the full A level course. You can take the AS level on its own at the end of Year 12. The final grade will count towards entry to Further/Higher Education.

The AS level is made up of three units:

Unit 1: Markets and Market Failure.

35% AS or 17.5% A level

How goods and services are allocated in a market economy and problems which can arise e.g. inequalities of income and external costs like pollution.

Assessed by 1 hour exam of multiple choice questions + a data response question.

Unit 2: The National Economy.

35% AS or 17.5% A level

How the UK economy works! We look at issues like unemployment, inflation, growth; and what the government does to help (or not).

Assessed by 1 hour exam of multiple choice questions + a data response question.

Unit 3: Markets at Work.

30% AS or 15% A level

We will use the Economics we have learnt in the previous two units to apply to the Housing Market. There is no new content to study in this unit.

Assessed by 1 hour exam of one data response question.

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Course Information:

The ADVANCED LEVEL (AS + A2) Specification

The full Advanced level qualification is made up of the 3 AS Units plus 3 more Units studied at A2 level. If you decide to continue with the second half of the course in Year 13 you will study the following additional Units.

Unit 4: Working as an economist

20% of A level

This unit content is based on the European Union.

Assessment: one paper in which a lot of data is provided and a report is written.

Unit 5: Business Economics and Income Distribution

15% of A level

This builds on module 1. We look in more depth at different ways in which firms compete, why there are differences in wages between occupations and what the government can do to correct market failure.

Assessment: 1 paper with 1 data response and 1 essay question to be answered.

Unit 6: Government Policy, National and International Economics

15% of A level

This builds on module 2. We will investigate what is going on in the UK economy in more depth e.g. why does the £ rise and fall in value and what effects does this have?

e.g. why do we pay taxes and why does the Chancellor change some taxes in his Budget? Should taxes on petrol be so high?

Assessment: 1 paper with 1 data response and 1 essay question to be answered.

*** How could I develop Key Skills by doing this course?**

As well as covering the study of **Economics**, the AS/A2 courses will enable you to develop key skills. Your teacher will let you know when a particular piece of work also accounts for Key Skills assessment as well as for **Economics** assessment. You will need to keep evidence of this work in a Portfolio for assessment later if you wish to gain Key Skills qualification. During this course examples of key skills could include:

Communication e.g. arguing for or against the minimum wage.

Application of Number e.g. costs, revenues and profits.

Information & Communication Technology e.g. plotting graphs from spreadsheets.

Improving own learning & performance e.g. practising demand and supply analysis in different markets.

Problem solving e.g. helping the Chancellor with his budget!

Working with others e.g. group presentation of an economic issue.

*** What could I go on to do after the course?**

You could take a degree course in Economics itself or a related area such as Management, Business, Finance, Accountancy, and Marketing. This A-level can help you on to other courses too such as Law or Business with a Modern Foreign Language. Your options are wide open with regard to a career. Options include retail management, marketing, sales, personnel management, banking and finance, accountancy, etc.