



Why Study Economics?

The Economics course aims to equip students with the ability to make sense of many contemporary business and economic issues. Students will look at fundamental economic principles and explore the effects on businesses, consumers and government. The course has a strong focus on the changing world economy and the impact of the growing economic power of China and India. It aims to develop in students an enquiring, critical and thoughtful approach, developing skills of application, analysis and evaluation. It is the high degree of relevance and, at times, the controversy which makes the subject such a lively and interesting one to study.



Course Content and Assessment

A Level subject content is divided into four units that are assessed through external examination.

- **Theme 1 – Market, consumers and firms**
In this theme, students explore the way in which consumers make choices and entrepreneurs create desirable products.
- **Theme 2 – The wider economic environment**
This unit helps students explore how firms can become more competitive. It introduces them to the wider international and economic environment in which firms operate.
- **Theme 3 – The global economy**
This theme continues to focus on the international economic environment developing students' understanding of globalisation and its implications.

- **Theme 4 – Making markets work**

The final theme considers the level of competition within markets and then looks at how governments may improve the functioning of markets and the economy.

Study Methods

The course encourages students to question and investigate what is happening in the local, national and global business environment. It would therefore be an excellent subject for those with an open, enquiring mind, who are comfortable discussing different views, have a reasonable level of English and numeracy, and wish to develop their understanding of the business world and the economic environment. It combines well with most other subjects developing, in particular, research, analysis and evaluation skills.

Progression Routes

The course forms an excellent base for a wide range of university options including Economics, Law, Business, Finance and Accounting, International Business and Management. It also equips students with some of the skills and understanding to build a career in Finance, Marketing, Human Resources or Management.

Entry Requirements

It is not necessary to have studied GCSE Business Studies in order to be considered for this course. However, students who have studied GCSE Business must have gained at least grade 5 in the subject. At least grade 5 in GCSE English and Mathematics is also required.