



Economics A-level

Session Aims:

- Why study this subject area?
- What is on the specification?
- How is the content assessed?
- What subject combinations work?

Personnel

Mr Watson – Head of Department

Mr Gillespie – Robinson Housemaster

Mr Young – Carr Housemaster

Mr Bailey – Forest Housemaster

Mr Fernie – Director of Learning and Innovation

Why study this subject area?

“Studying economics in the sixth form will not only ensure you stay up-to-date with current affairs; you will also develop the facilities to critically analyse a range of issues in finance, business and politics.”

A-level students

Subject Combinations

Successful combinations last year in Economics:

- (F) Maths, Economics + other
- Economics, History/Geography + other

What will you learn - Economics?

Themes 1 & 3:

MICRO-economics (Paper 1)

- Theme 1: you will learn about how markets work and what happens when they don't work so well
- Theme 3: you will learn how businesses compete and set prices, how the jobs market works and how competition can be encouraged

Themes 2 & 4:

MACRO-economics (Paper 2)

- Theme 2: you will learn about how the UK economy works, in recessions and booms
- Theme 4: you will explore international trade, inequality within and between countries, emerging and developing economies, and the public finances.

Assessment

Paper 1

Short-answer, data response and essay questions on markets and business behaviour – this is the content you study in Theme 1 and Theme 3.

Paper 2

Short-answer, data response and essay questions on the national and global economy – this is the content you study in Theme 2 and Theme 4.

Paper 3

The questions in the exam – data response and essay questions – cover concepts and theory from the whole course.

- 3 x 2 hour papers
- Maximum essay: 30-35 minutes writing per essay
- Papers 1 and 2 include calculations, data analysis.

Key Statistics - Economics

- One of the most popular A Level options

128 students study Economics in the Sixth Form

- Outstanding Exam Results

Year	Number of Entries	A* (%)	A*-A (%)	A*-B (%)	A*-E (%)
2022	59	20 (34%)	44 (75%)	57 (97%)	59 (100%)
2019	65	15 (23%)	51 (78%)	63 (97%)	65 (100%)

University Offers

Around one-quarter of Economics students go onto study a course specifically related to Economics at university.

Provider name	Course placed
Cardiff University	Accounting and Finance
University of Bath	Accounting and Finance
University of Leicester	Accounting and Finance
University of Surrey	Accounting and Finance with Foundation Year
University of Cambridge	Economics
UCL (University College London)	Economics
University of Bath	Economics
University of Bath	Economics
University of Surrey	Economics
University of Bath	Economics
Newcastle University	Economics and Business Management
University of Bristol	Economics and Politics
University of Birmingham	Economics and Politics
University of Kent	Economics and Politics
University of Manchester	Politics, Philosophy and Economics

Business v Economics

Subjects have some content overlap, for instance:

- Globalisation
- Elasticity Calculations
- Business Growth
- Demand and Supply Diagrams

Differences

Content in Economics is more technically challenging in some areas of the specification.

There is less time in Economics to reinforce and strengthen core skills.

(c) Discuss the likely impact of the National Living Wage on the profitability of firms. Use a cost and revenue diagram in your answer.

