ECONOMICS

Subject Overview

Should the government be cutting expenditure by so much or is there a case for raising taxation to reduce the budget deficit? Just how far will house prices yet rise in the UK? What are the consequences for the UK of greater European integration? What impact would the demise of the Euro have on the UK? Why have energy firms increased their prices and what impact will this have on consumers? Why do the prices of primary products tend to fluctuate and what, if anything, should we do about it? Why do theatres charge different prices for the same show? Should the private sector have greater involvement in the provision of health and education in the UK? How do we prompt more people into providing body parts for donation? How can we tackle the demographic time bomb facing the UK in the future?

Economists have something to say about all these questions. Studying this subject at A Level will give you the tools of analysis and evaluation required to answer interesting current questions. You will base your discussion of issues not only on theory but also on data, which you will have to approach with an open and critical mind. You will study by way of reading, discussion, preparation of posters and presentations, essay writing and data response.

The skills of recognising the correct issues to raise in relation to a problem, the application of data to understand the extent of the problem, the analysis of a range of possible solutions and the judgement required to arrive at a balanced conclusion are skills valued by employers as well as the route to success in examinations. Studying Economics will enhance your attributes. Economics works very well with Science subjects such as Maths, Physics or Biology in addition to Humanities subjects such as Geography or History.

Economics students find that they secure university places not only in Economics but also in Accounting, Finance and Management, Engineering, Law, Urban Planning or Humanities. Employment is available in areas such as Finance, Investment Banking, Accountancy, Management Consultancy, Public Service, Journalism, Industry Regulation, determining pricing strategies for private sector firms or economic research.

Exam Board Specification

AS Examinations:

- 1. The operation of markets and market failure. This will be assessed in Year 12 using multiple choice and data response questions.
- 2. The national economy in a global context. This will be assessed in Year 12 using multiple choice and data response questions.

A2 Examinations:

- 1. Markets and market failure. This will be assessed in Year 13 using data response and essay.
- AQA
- 2. National and international economy. This will be assessed in Year 13 using data response and essay.
- 3. Economic principles and issues. This will be assessed in Year 13 using multiple choice and a case study.



2013-14: Excellent Exam Results

Last year's Year 13 students managed to achieve some of the best ever exam results in the subject. Just under 60% of Year 13 students entered attained A*-B grades, with many going on to study the subject at university.



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