

# A Level Economics

**Examination board & syllabus: Edexcel Economics A**

**Minimum Entry Requirements: GCSE Maths Grade 5/6 and English Grade 5/6**

## **Course Outline:**

Economics is a traditional, academic A Level subject where students are required to develop a deep theoretical understanding of Economic models and through sophisticated analysis apply these to current domestic and world situations. The teaching reflects this consisting of theory teaching, individual and group research and a lot of class debate. Economics is a continually changing subject so students need to keep up-to-date with current affairs, and will enjoy reading around the subject.

In the first year, two modules are followed, the first looks into Microeconomics; - the behaviour of individuals, firms, markets, their failure and government intervention in them. The second module introduces Macroeconomic models and issues; such as the determination and measurement of GDP, inflation, exchange rates, and unemployment. In the second year, another Microeconomics unit is covered examining the behaviour of businesses is examined more closely by looking at different market structures and the nature of the labour market. The Macroeconomics unit in Year 13 concerns the role of international trade, poverty and inequality in a global economy and the role of the financial sector.

## **Assessment:**

The A-Level qualification is assessed through 3 exams at the end of Year 13; each is 2 hours in length.

- Paper 1: Markets and business behaviour (35%) – covering the Microeconomics Units from Year 12 and Year 13
- Paper 2: National and global economics (35%) – covering the Macroeconomics Units from Year 12 and Year 13
- Paper 3: Microeconomics and macroeconomics (30%) – Covering all 4 Units

## **Equipment required / Approx Cost:**

Text book for the full course (approx £33), Calculator (From £5) and graph drawing equipment

## **Independent Study Tips:**

One hour practice for every lesson on top of any homework set. It is essential that you have an active interest throughout the course in current affairs. Read/watch the news on a daily basis and use the Internet to keep up to date with economic issues. Additional reading is imperative to achieving good marks in Economics.

## **Higher Education Progression:**

Many courses link to the study of Economics and many Universities hold the subject in high regard.

## **Career Opportunities:**

Economics is a prestigious and academically demanding subject that will equip students with a set of transferable skills, which can be applied successfully to a range of academic subjects. It is excellent preparation for higher education and good grounding for a career in Law, Accountancy, Economics, Financial Economics, Marketing, Management, Banking, Business, Local and Town Planning, Financial Services, Insurance, Teaching and Journalism.

## **Useful Websites:**

[www.tutor2u.net](http://www.tutor2u.net)  
[www.bized.ac.uk](http://www.bized.ac.uk)