

Guilsborough Academy Sixth Form

KS5 CURRICULUM

Course Title: **A Level Economics**

Examination Board: Edexcel



Entry Requirements: Grade 5 in Maths and English

Assessment: There are three externally assessed papers at A-Level. Each paper comprises 100 marks and is two hours in duration. Questions range from short answer questions, data response and extended open response.

The AS level is embedded in the A level: themes 1 and 2 are the same in both the AS and A level specifications.

There are two externally assessed papers at AS level. Each paper comprises 80 marks and is 1.5 hours in duration. Questions range from short answers, data response and extended open response.

Is This Course Right For Me?

If you have an enquiring mind and are curious about the world around you, then Economics can satisfy your curiosity. It helps you to explain the big questions affecting individuals, businesses, governments and countries. For instance, is a professional footballer working for five weeks really worth the same as a nurse that has worked for forty years? Why are diamonds more expensive than water? Does our well-being in England really depend on people in other parts of the world being poor?

Economics enables you to become a critical thinker and help you to understand the world better. Why are we in a recession? How could we solve the problem of unemployment? You will learn to apply the Economists toolkit to understand and explain the world as it is and make predictions about the future direction and possible solutions.

Economics is held in high esteem by ALL the Universities, including the Russell Group, due to its academic rigour.

Unit Contents:

The A-Level is structured into four coherent themes to support teaching and learning:

Theme 1: Markets and Market Failure

This theme introduces students to the microeconomic nature of economics, looking at economic problems and the ways economists think and work.

Theme 2: UK Economy – Performance and Policies

This theme introduces the key measures of economic performance and the main instruments of economic policy primarily in a UK context.

Theme 3: Business Behaviour and the Labour Market

This theme introduces students to a microeconomic analysis of firms and the labour market.

Theme 4: Global Perspective

This theme introduces students to the global nature of economics and interdependence.

Progression:

Economics is an established academic subject and, as such, provides an excellent base for progression into higher education. Economists are highly sought after – in fact economists are the second most highly paid graduates. Those who have a good understanding of Economics will find rewarding occupations in finance, banking and management. The government and large international businesses are important employers of professional economists. You could take this course with other advanced level courses to prepare for higher education in areas of Economics, Business Studies, Accounting, Marketing or more general higher education courses. With further training, you could go into a job related to economics, business, marketing, finance and accounting, human resources and public relations. You could also look at doing a trainee management course within a business to gain the skills, understanding and experience that they require so you can progress to working at management level.

Example of university courses and grades required

- Economics, e.g. **Bath University, Warwick University** – A*, A, A
- Accountancy, e.g. **Sheffield Hallam** – B, B, B
- Journalism, e.g. **DeMontfort University** – B, B, C

Further Information Contact:

Mrs Enever-Jones Head of Economics and Business