

A Level Economics

(OCR - www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as-a-level-gce-economics-h060-h460-from-2015)

• Why study A Level Economics?

The Economics A Level course deals with the choices that people, firms and countries make and the impact of these decisions, with specific focus on how decisions can be made so the lives of all can be improved. It is from this simple basis that all of the economic problems in the world around us arise and hence leads to questions that need to be answered, such as:

- *Is inflation bad?*
- *What was the cause of the global financial crisis?*
- *Would a reduction in house prices be good for the UK?*
- *Are workers in the third world exploited?*

The aim of the course is to help students understand the issues that need to be addressed when such questions are raised and apply the relevant economic theories and models to arrive at possible solutions.

• What skills will I gain from studying Economics?

Economics requires students to develop a range of skills - from the use of theoretical models, to the construction of coherent and well structured arguments - all of which will need to be underpinned by a good grasp of the current UK and world economic environment. The subject will give students the tools to look at the world from an alternative perspective and understand how many seemingly disparate issues are in fact deeply integrated and dependent on each other.

• Where can Economics lead?

Students taking economics often go on to university to study a range of subjects from economics, business, international finance, accountancy, law, management and even PPE (*currently over 80% of students that study Business, Economics or Accounting at KEVI go on to follow a business related course at university*). In addition, economics is a well respected subject for a range of professions including accountancy, business and law, whilst in the long term it can open doors for work at institutions such as HM Treasury, the European Parliament and the World Bank.

• How will I be assessed?

This A level course is examined by three separate exam papers each two hours long:

- **Units 1 and 2** both contain an unseen case study with data response questions plus options of two out of four longer written answers
- **The Unit 3** exam includes multiple choice questions plus longer written questions based around an extended unseen case study set on a specific economic 'theme'

All exams are sat at the end of Year 13

A Level Economics students consistently achieve outstanding results:

- In 2016 - **57%** of A Level Economics students achieved **A*-B** grades (and in 2015 the A*-B pass rate was 80%!)
- **A level performance** by Economics students (as measured by progress) was the **joint best in the school** in 2016!