Economics AS and A level

Qualification aims and objectives:

The aims and objectives of Economics AS and A level are to enable students to:

- develop an interest in and enthusiasm for the subject
- appreciate the contribution of economics to the understanding of the wider economic and social environment
- develop an understanding of a range of concepts and an ability to use those concepts in a variety of different contexts
- use an enquiring, critical and thoughtful approach to the study of economics and develop an ability to think as an economist
- understand that economic behaviour can be studied from a range of perspectives
- develop analytical and quantitative skills, together with qualities and attitudes that will equip them for challenges, opportunities and responsibilities of adult and working life.

What does the course cover?

AS Economics – Year 12

AS level Economics is embedded in the A level. Theme 1 and Theme 2 comprise the same content for both the AS and A level specifications. There are two externally assessed exams.

Theme 1	Theme 2
Introduction to markets and market failure	The UK Economy – performance and policies.
1.1 The nature of economics	2.1 Measure of economic performance
1.2 How markets work	2.2 Aggregate demand
1.3 Market failure	2.3 Aggregate supply
1.4 Government intervention	2.4 National Income
	2.5 Economic growth
	2.6 Macroeconomic objectives and policy
Paper 1	Paper 2
Introduction to markets and market failure	The UK Economy – performance and policies.

A Level Economics Year 12 and Year 13

Theme 1	Theme 2
Introduction to markets and market failure	The UK Economy – performance and policies.
1.1 The nature of economics	2.1 Measure of economic performance
1.2 How markets work	2.2 Aggregate demand
1.3 Market failure	2.3 Aggregate supply
1.4 Government intervention	2.4 National Income
	2.5 Economic growth
	2.6 Macroeconomic objectives and policy
Theme 3	Theme 4
Business behaviour and the labour market.	A global perspective
3.1 Business growth	4.1 International economics
3.2 Business objectives	4.2 Poverty and inequality
3.3 Revenues, costs and profits	4.3 Emerging and developing economics
3.4 Market structures	4.4 The financial sector
3.5 The labour market	4.5 Role of the state in the macroeconomy
3.6 Government intervention	
Paper 1	Paper 2
Markets and business behaviour	· ·
	The National and global economy
Assessing Theme 1 and Theme 3	Assessing Theme 2 and Theme 4.
Paper 3	
Microeconomics and macroeconomics, Assessing all themes	

There are three externally marked exams.

Where can it take you?

Students will develop transferable skills that support study in a wide range of subjects at university and the transition to employment, including quantitative and analytical analysis, forming and testing hypotheses, and commercial awareness. The development and application of quantitative skills prepares students for the study of economics and related courses at university.

Students can progress from this qualification to:

- Higher education courses such as economics degrees with a focus on theory, or degrees in applied economics such as environmental economics, labour economics, public sector economics or monetary economics. Alternatively, students may choose to study a business economics, mathematical, economics or business degree.
- A wide range of careers ranging from finance, banking, insurance, accountancy, management and consultancy, to becoming professional economists.

Entry requirements

There are no prior learning or other requirements for this qualification however, a good level of written English and Mathematics GCSE would be beneficial.

Exam Board

Edexcel AS and A Level Economics A (8ECO) and (9ECO)