

# Economics

Examination board: Edexcel (Economics A)

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- **What is inflation – and how can a government try to combat it?**
- **Is it true that the gap between the rich and the poor in the UK is getting bigger?**
- **How reliable is GDP as a measure of our economy’s performance?**
- **Should the government make landlords set lower rents? Why are some nations rich and developed while others remain desperately poor?**
- **Would tariffs on imports help preserve UK jobs...or harm them?**
- **How will the Government pay back all the debt it has built up tackling the coronavirus pandemic?**

Economics is a fascinating subject in part because it touches on so many other disciplines, such as politics, business, history, geography, and psychology. The great economist, John Maynard Keynes, once stated that an economist must be “mathematician, historian, statesman, and philosopher... He must understand symbols yet speak in words.”

The course provides a good grounding for those who wish to study the subject at university as well as being a stimulating course for those not intending to study the subject further. It fits well into most subject combinations, providing a useful crossover between the arts and the sciences. The performance of the UK economy affects us all; economic policies are key issues in all general elections. An understanding of Economics therefore is a valuable part of a general education as well as a useful attribute for many careers. Pupils undertaking the course will feel they better understand the world around them.

## Content

The course is divided into four themes. Themes 1 and 2 form the basis of study for Year 12 and themes 3 and 4 form the basis for Year 13.

## Theme 1- Introduction to Market and Market Failure

Pupils will develop an understanding of:

- The nature of economics
- How markets work
- Examples of market failure
- Examples of government intervention.

## Theme 2 - The UK economy – performance and policies

Pupils will develop an understanding of:

- Measures of economic performance
- Aggregate demand
- Aggregate supply
- National income
- Economic growth
- Macroeconomic objectives and policy.

## Theme 3 - Business behaviour and the labour market

Pupils will develop an understanding of:

- Business growth
- Business objectives
- Revenues, costs, and profits
- Market structures
- Labour market
- Government intervention in markets.

## Theme 4 - A Global Perspective

Pupils will develop an understanding of:

- International economics
- Poverty and inequality
- Emerging and developing economies
- The financial sector
- The role of the state in the macroeconomy.

A Level Economics is assessed through three examinations at the end of the course:

<b>Paper</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>% of qualification</b>	<b>Themes</b>
1 (9EC0/01)	Markets and Business Behaviour	35 (2 hours)	1 and 3
2 (9EC0/02)	The National and Global Economy	35 (2 hours)	2 and 4
3 (9EC0/03)	Microeconomics and Macroeconomics	30 (2 hours)	All four themes