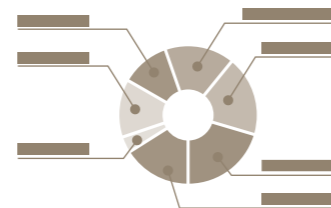




# ECONOMICS



HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: MR WHATLEY  
EXAMINATION BOARD: EDEXCEL

SPECIFICATION: EDEXCEL ECONOMICS A  
QUALIFICATION: A-LEVEL ECONOMICS

They say money makes the world go round — but how fast? And in what direction? And is it spinning off course? Studying Economics gives you a grasp of processes that affect every aspect of your life and helps you to understand different ways of organising business and the state.

Truro School's course is about evaluating opposing views, distinguishing valued judgements from facts, recognising bias and gaining the confidence to make your own financial decisions. We will challenge your political and economic assumptions, explore uncertainty and value diversity.

Students are required to get a Grade 7 or above at GCSE Maths to study an A-Level in Economics.

2024 OUTSTANDING RESULTS

**A\*-B**

**100%**

## WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN LOWER SIXTH

The subject is split into two main sections, microeconomics and macroeconomics, and we devote half of the lessons to studying each of these. The Lower Sixth is split into two parts:

**THEME 1:** Markets and business behaviour. Topics include scarcity and choice, the basic economic problem, opportunity cost, specialisation and trade, supply and demand, market failure and government intervention.

**THEME 2:** The national and global economy. Topics include economic growth, inflation, unemployment and international trade. This part of the course also considers the effectiveness of different government policies for example interest rates, taxation and government spending.

The course has a real-world focus and each lesson aims to apply the economic theory you have learnt to recent news stories. There are constant opportunities for independent research, group tasks and presentations. For example, in the Lower Sixth you will be asked to:

Research the effects of the rise in long-term unemployment.

Consider you and your family's consumption behaviour and explain what you think are the main factors which determine how much someone spends.

Use the observatory of economic complexity to describe the UK's pattern of trade. Who do we trade with? What do we import? What do we export?

**OUTSTANDING RESULTS**  
2024 A-Level Economics students achieved outstanding results A\*/A 55% and 100% A\*- B

**OUTSTANDING VALUE ADDED**  
In 2024, all students achieved or exceed their ALPS

**OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC SUPPORT**  
Small class sizes, 1:1 meetings, weekly clinic in the Upper Sixth and online resources and tests via moodle.

*Studying Economics gives you a greater understanding of what is going on in the world, and provides useful skills and knowledge for your future. This year we have discussed topics as diverse as the impact of immigrant labour in the UK, if there is a future in bitcoins, and whether childcare costs should be tax deductible for working parents. We have also seen how hyperinflation led to starving billionaires in Zimbabwe and learnt how there would be no streetlights without government intervention!*

SARITA

**COMPREHENSIVE UCAS SUPPORT**  
1:1 guidance on building academic evidence and workshops on how to write excellent Economics personal statements.

**CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT**  
The Economics department offers a real focus on developing the learning skills needed to succeed at university, for example debating, presenting and independent research. They also work collaboratively with other departments to deliver lectures on a range of relevant topics.

**EXTENSIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES**  
Royal Economics Essay Competition  
Peter Jones 'Tycoon' challenge



## WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN LOWER SIXTH

In the Upper Sixth you build on the skills you have developed:

**THEME 3:** Business behaviour and the labour market. Topics include how competitive markets work, imperfect markets, for example monopoly and oligopoly, and the Labour market.

**THEME 4:** Global perspective. Topics include the theory of trade, inequality, development, the role of the financial sector and the role of the state.

There is also an emphasis on examination skills so you are fully prepared for the summer exams. Examples of tasks you will be asked to complete are:

Prepare a presentation on the economic arguments for and against leaving the EU. Do you judge that it was the correct decision for the UK economy?

## WHERE WILL AN A-LEVEL IN ECONOMICS TAKE YOU?

Economics is well regarded by universities as a rigorous A-Level because of the analytical skills that it teaches.

The most popular degree course choices for A-Level Economics students tend to be Economics, Business, Politics, International Relations, Law and Mathematics.

While A-Level Mathematics is not a prerequisite for studying A-Level Economics, students who plan to pursue a degree in Economics will most likely need to have A-Level Mathematics.

Research real-world examples of monopoly, oligopoly and monopolistic competition. What do you think are main impacts on the consumer of the different types of market structure?

Research the minimum wage. What is it? How much is it? What are the benefits for the Cornish economy? Can you think of any negative impacts? Do you agree with the Labour Party that it should be raised?