

# Economics A Level



## HEAD OF DEPARTMENT

Sean McLoughlin

## EMAIL ADDRESS

info@gch.org.uk

## EXAM BOARD

EDEXCEL

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

At the heart of Economics is one question: how should we allocate our resources to cater for the needs of over 7 billion people? The answer is complex. If you choose Economics at The Grey Coat Hospital you will consider a broad range of questions – in one lesson you could be analysing UK drug policy, the next having a debate about the impact of Brexit. Over the course of these lessons



you will develop both your quantitative and qualitative skills, making this a desired qualification by universities and employers. More than this, you will find yourself looking at the world in a different way, understanding why various agents act in the way they do, and perhaps changing the way you respond.

## SKILLS REQUIRED

- **Analytical**  
– interpreting data to explain the impact or cause of different economic events
- **Evaluative**  
– providing reasoned judgements on, for example, the suitability of government policy
- **Numerical**  
– performing calculations that economists use to analyse markets
- **Communication**  
– writing essays, giving presentations, having debates
- **Research**  
– keeping up to date with economic events both nationally and internationally

## PROGRAMME OF STUDY

### Theme 1

Introduction to markets and market failure

Exam paper covering

Themes 1 and 3

2 hours

35% of A Level

### Theme 2

The UK economy - performance and policies

Exam paper covering

Themes 2 and 4

2 hours

35% of A Level

### Theme 3

Business behaviour and the labour market

Exam paper covering

Themes 1 - 4

2 hours

30% of A Level

### Theme 4

A global perspective

20% of total A level

## EXAMINATION RESULTS

In 2018:            33% of students achieved A\* - A  
                             67% of students achieved A\* - B  
                             83% of students achieved A\* - C

## ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES

Economists from the Ministry of Justice come into A-Level economics lessons, giving



practical tips on economic analysis and how to enter the profession. Talks and networking opportunities are arranged for the students with various members of the professional services; we recently spent an hour with the CEO of top Management Consultancy who gave out his business card before we left. We also take part in student conferences, and were privileged to be invited to a lecture led by the Governor

of the Bank of England, Mark Carney, (see photo) who fielded questions from our students on current economic issues. We visit the bank itself at the end of Year 12.

## FUTURE CAREERS

The Russell Group have classified Economics as a suitable A-Level choice for anyone thinking about applying to one of their universities. They have advised that it is particularly advantageous for anyone applying to study:

- Accountancy
- Actuarial Sciences
- Business Studies
- Economics
- History
- Management Studies
- Planning
- Politics

The Institute for Fiscal Studies found that Economics graduates had the third highest median annual earnings five years after graduating – only surpassed by Medicine and Dentistry. Students who wish to apply for Economics at university are supported in their application by the Head of Economics at The Grey Coat Hospital.