

A LEVEL ECONOMICS

2025-26



THE
PORTSMOUTH
GRAMMAR
SCHOOL

Course Outline

Economics is about how a society decides to divide up its scarce resources and therefore determines who gets what and why. All concepts and theories are illustrated with real world data and case studies, and pupils enjoy being able to apply their knowledge and understanding to issues which arise daily in the news. These typical questions give a sample of what is in store: Why do governments impose taxes on alcohol but not on children's clothes? Why have oil prices increased, and fallen? Should we pay to use a motorway? What is the best way to reduce child poverty in the UK? What rules must a firm apply to maximise its profits? Has the introduction of the National Minimum Wage resulted in more unemployment?

A Level External Assessment

Unit 1 – Markets and Business Behaviour

120 minutes; 35% of A Level

Unit 2 – The National and Global Economy

120 minutes; 35% of A Level

Unit 3 – Microeconomics and Macroeconomics

120 minutes; 30% of A Level

Entry Requirements

Pupils are expected to have achieved at least a Grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics or History. Pupils wishing to take Economics without also taking Mathematics and pupils wishing to take Economics and Business together should consult Mr Hipperson.

Skills Required and Developed

Economics encourages pupils to acquire a range of important and transferable skills. Pupils are expected to manipulate data in a variety of forms and to interpret their results. They will present arguments and make judgments and justify recommendations based on the available evidence. They are challenged to recognise the nature of problems, solve problems and make decisions using appropriate economic theories and concepts.

Beyond the Classroom

Pupils can enhance their learning by reading the business and economics news pages. Pupils can gain first-hand experience of how the financial industry and real businesses operate through the co-curricular activities on offer in the department such as Mercurious Society and the Business and Economics Society. Additionally, they will have the opportunity to enter a range of national essay competitions and will enjoy lectures from visiting speakers.

University Courses and Professions that Require the Subject

Economics will prove particularly advantageous to those planning to enter politics, law, accountancy, industry or commerce.



More Information

Contact our Head of Economics and Business, Mr. M Hipperson:

- Telephone: 023 9236 4287
- Email: M.Hipperson@pgs.org.uk

You can also find more information on the exam board's website: www.edexcel.com