



KING JAMES'S  
SCHOOL  
KNARESBOROUGH

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

ECONOMICS

2021/22

We want King James's economics students 'to think like an economist' when discussing world and economic affairs. Throughout the curriculum we consider why choices need to be made, how choices are made, and the implications of those choices by individuals and government on quality of life. Economic questions enter into all aspects of life, how wages are determined, whether taxes should be raised, how to best provide equality of opportunity in society, how to protect the environment, how to get rich, or how to use our scarce resources to satisfy needs. Economic students need to be able to understand how economic theory can be used to analyse and evaluate economic information to make reasoned judgments.

The curriculum is based on a range of research, including Rosenshine's Principles in Action. We apply real world economics using current news topics to debate potential solutions to difficult economic problems. As a knowledge based curriculum, we believe that substantive and disciplinary knowledge underpins our curriculum and enables our students to apply, analyse and critically evaluate knowledge which is vital for success. Content is delivered to students using a range of economic theories which are built upon through a variety of practice questions, with regular quality assessment and feedback during each learning cycle to support student progress.

The schemes of work and specification by nature outline some of the parameters of subject content for GCSE and A Level Economics, however we have focused on developing the basics in the first year by making the decision to teach both micro and macro in Year 10 and Year 12. This ensures students have the powerful knowledge before progressing to study more challenging concepts. We have broken our curriculum into half term planners with opportunities for students and teachers to review progress during each learning cycle and to identify areas of strength and development.

We are developing knowledge organisers and learning mats at both KS4 and KS5 to ensure students have basic prior knowledge which will allow them to focus on developing their analysis and critical evaluation skills which are vital to success in Economics. The emphasis is on students applying the knowledge they have developed in class, to real life situations. We use debate and student presentations to enable students to gain key life skills while also challenging themselves through researching current economic topics in preparation for these presentations and debates.

**Key Stage 4 & 5 Economics:** In the first year we ensure students have a baseline of knowledge to enable them to translate key terms across the curriculum. For example, we deliver a combination of Microeconomics and Macroeconomics in Year 10/12 to ensure students can get a broad sense of both markets and government policy theory. This helps support their understanding across the curriculum rather than compartmentalising concepts which enables stronger critical thinking. We have flexibility to deliver elements in response to a range of factors, such as the level of student understanding of a current news or economic issue that would support curriculum delivery.