



CLAIRES COURT
SIXTH FORM

Curriculum Statement

Year 13 - Economics
2025 – 2026

Your place to *aim high*

Economics

Economics is offered as a two year full A level course. Broadly the AS content is taught in Year 12 and the additional A level content in Year 13. The examination board used is AQA. The aim of the course at Claires Court is two-fold. Firstly to ensure the best possible academic results and secondly to give the students a good practical foundation and knowledge of the economy for their lives ahead. Skills integral to A Level Economics such as analysis, problem solving and evaluating solutions are highly desirable in further education and employment.

What background knowledge and skills are needed?

It is not necessary to have taken Economics or Business Studies at GCSE level in order to study Economics at A level since the course starts with the assumption that the students have no previous knowledge of the subject. However, there is an expectation that students will have attained a grade 6 or above in English and Mathematics at GCSE level due to the rigour of quantitative and qualitative skills required for the course.

Where can it lead?

A Level Economics is a course which helps you to develop a wide range of transferable skills. You will not only gain an insight into Economic theory, but you will investigate real markets and economies and develop the ability to evaluate using both quantitative and qualitative data. You will have the opportunity to regularly work in teams and present ideas/arguments in various formats (i.e. presentations, videos, debates and group tasks). This will enable you to develop crucial work related skills such as problem solving and team working.

The programme acts as a stepping stone to any business, finance or economics related degree programme and is well regarded by universities for many applications due to its academic rigour. Students regularly move on to higher education courses leading to career options not only as an Economist, but in journalism, banking and finance and management consultancy and many others.

It is worth noting that should you wish to pursue Economics at degree level, many universities will require A Level Maths but the range of courses/modules is vast, so do your research.

What will I study?

The A level Economics specification is broken down into 14 topics covering micro and macroeconomics. Nine of these are introduced in Year 12 and the following are completed in Year 13.

The following microeconomics topics will be studied in Year 13:

- Individual economic decision making
- Production, costs and revenue - marginal and long run costs, tech change
- Market structures: perfect competition, monopolistic competition, oligopoly, price discrimination, dynamics of markets
- The labour market.
- The distribution of income and wealth: poverty and inequality.
- Competition policy, public and private ownership.

The following macroeconomic topics will be studied:

- Uses of national income data
- How the macroeconomy works: marginal propensity to consume, LRAS.
- Economic performance: impact of the economic cycle, disinflation, trade-offs
- Financial markets and monetary policy, more aspects of fiscal and monetary policy
- Globalisation.

The topics lend themselves to studying and engaging with the economic world and encourage students to follow economic developments and think critically about contemporary issues as the assessment material is based on real economic situations.

Mastery

In Year 12 students will be taught a range of key skills to help develop an understanding of the economic forces which shape our lives. These include analytical, numeric, communication and problem solving skills and cultural awareness. Recall exercises are employed throughout the course to help secure their mastery of knowledge. This will aid them in their understanding and ability to evaluate the key influences on economic decision making. Worked examples, teacher modelling and exemplar answers will be utilised to enable students to develop confidence in writing analytically and being able to evaluate the impact of a given situation.

Assessment

While teaching in this order could enable a student to sit AS examinations in Y12, it is expected that most will sit the A level exams in the summer of Year 13, as follows:

Economics one: Markets and Market Failure

Two hours (80 marks)

- Section A: Data response questions; choice of one from two contexts (40 marks)
- Section B: Essay questions; choice of one from three contexts (40 marks).

Economics two: The National and International Economy

Two hours (80 marks)

- Section A: Data response questions; choice of one from two contexts (40 marks)
- Section B: Essay questions; choice of one from three contexts (40 marks).

Economics three: Economic Principles and Issues

Two hours (80 marks)

- Section A: Multiple choice questions (30 marks)
- Section B: Case study questions – (50 marks).

In ongoing preparation for these exams, students are expected to follow up every lesson to develop their understanding and also given homework on a weekly basis which is designed to improve research and writing skills as well as ensuring plenty of practice in the more analytical sections of the course. Students' performance in this aspect of the course is carefully monitored. In addition to the termly internal assessments, students are required to sit an end of topic test designed to assess their subject knowledge, exam technique and assess their progress. In addition there are regular internal exams, with mock exams in June. Term attainment grades are based on the results of these tests. Effort grades are based on general performance over the term in class and homework.

Additional activities

- **Real world Economics:** Students are encouraged to watch or listen to economics related news stories in print, online or news apps to broaden their knowledge and understanding of how the course links to the world around them. BBC news has many in depth articles and there are many great Economics based podcasts; 'Economics in Ten', 'Freakonomics' and Tim Harford's podcasts on BBC Sounds are accessible and relevant.
- **Economics Games:** A variety of internet and paper based business and economics games which test the students' ability to assess and organise economic data in a fun way.
- **Project based learning:** Developing collaboration and problem solving skills while investigating global economic issues
- **Online resources/videos:** Econplusdal covers the technical core theory, and Tutor2u has many explanatory videos to aid understanding.

Textbooks

The textbook used for this course is:

- Alain Anderton, Economics (currently Sixth Edition), Anderton Press

- Also available is My Revision Notes: AQA A Level Economics Third Edition, Author(s): David Horner and Steve Stoddard which can be useful for core information, but this is optional and not a substitute.

For further information please contact:

Subject Leader: Ms Stella Neal – sdn@clairescourt.net

Head of Business and Economics: Mrs Laura Jakes- lmj@clairescourt.net