



# NOTTINGHAM GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL

GDST  
GIRLS' DAY SCHOOL TRUST

## SIXTH FORM CURRICULUM GUIDE

### ECONOMICS

AQA

#### ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

At least grade 7 in GCSE Mathematics.

It is not necessary to have studied this subject at GCSE in order to take it at A Level.



*“Studying Economics has helped me to understand some of the important issues currently in the news.”*

Whether or not you have studied Economics at GCSE, this A level course will help to encourage a genuine interest in current economic problems and how they might be resolved. You may have heard terms such as ‘euro crisis’ and ‘recession’ - economics helps to build an understanding of these terms and their implications for all of us.

Economics is essentially a study of the ways people provide for their well-being. The reason we face economic problems individually and as a country is that none of us can have all we want - we all have to make choices about how to use our limited resources. None of us have the time or money for everything we want! Often there are no clear-cut answers - no obvious solutions to economic problems. Political parties often disagree about economic issues. This means that Economics often appeals to those who enjoy argument and debate and take an interest in current affairs. Throughout the course there is great emphasis on relating economic theories to the UK economy. This is a very exciting time to be studying Economics and there are plenty of opportunities to discuss the topics currently making the headlines. For those who want to continue their interest further, we enter competitions such as the Bank of England Interest Rate Challenge, we attend conferences at Nottingham University and hold discussion groups after school.

The problems we examine during the course include:

- What are the consequences of Brexit?
- Should the government tax junk food?
- Can we reduce pollution by giving firms more incentives to be ‘green’?
- Should consumers pay directly for health care?

- Have we benefited from globalisation ?
- Are large firms better than small firms?
- Should higher earners pay higher rates of tax?
- How will the growth of the Chinese economy affect consumers in the UK?

Many students continue their study of Economics at university and move on to careers in Finance and Industry. Whatever your choice of university course and career, Economics provides an opportunity to gain many of the skills desired by employers and university departments. As a social science, Economics combines rigorous logic and theory in a social context and it requires students to understand and analyse data and to justify their viewpoint in a balanced and coherent argument. The many controversies in Economics give you plenty of practice in discussion and presenting and sustaining your point of view to your classmates. You will also have the satisfaction of understanding the 10 o’clock news! In addition, studying Economics is relevant to everyday life. As consumers, tax payers, employees (or even employers!) you will always be faced with making economic decisions. We hope that the skills gained in Economics will always be relevant and useful.

*“I have enjoyed Economics because it is literally everywhere! Economics affects every aspect of our lives.”*

*Click here to watch the course introductory video  
from Head of Business and Economics, Mr Chris Swales*

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In order to join us in the Sixth Form, we require an average of grade 6 across eight GCSE subjects, including English and Mathematics. See individual subjects for any specific requirements for study at A Level.

For detailed course information on all of the A Level subjects please visit the AQA, Edexcel or OCR websites.

If you have any questions about any aspect of the admissions process, please call 0115 935 4444 or email [admissions@not.gdst.net](mailto:admissions@not.gdst.net)



Nottingham Girls' High School  
9 Arboretum Street, Nottingham NG1 4JB  
0115 941 7663 [enquiries@not.gdst.net](mailto:enquiries@not.gdst.net)  
[nottinghamgirlshigh.gdst.net](http://nottinghamgirlshigh.gdst.net)



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@NottmGirlsHigh

