

## **Oakwood Park Grammar School**

### **Economics Department details**

Economics is a very popular A-Level subject taught at OPGS and students have been taking a deep interest in learning and extending their knowledge about key economic issues. The demand for places for the subject has been exceedingly high over the last 5 years. Students taking Economics at A-Level do not need to study it at GCSE and the current entry requirement for the subject is a minimum of 6 in Mathematics at GCSE, after having met the Sixth Form entry requirement at OPGS. Despite the subject not being taught at GCSE, students in Year 10 and 11 at OPGS have been discovering some elements of Economics through taster and Information, Advice & Guidance sessions.

Students study the Edexcel (Pearson) A syllabus as part of the course. In Year 12, students cover Introduction to Markets and Market Failure (as part of Microeconomics) and the UK Economy – Performance & Policies (as part of Macroeconomics). In Year 13, students focus on Business Behaviour and the Labour Market and Global Perspective linking their awareness about the international economies. Students also extend their knowledge through independent research and reading around current economic issues.

Students explore the subject combining taught lessons and independent learning done outside of the classroom. Students also undertake various extra-curricular activities such as entering for the Royal Economic Society essay competition, taking part in debates covering economic issues, undertaking Extended Project Qualification related to Economics and attending talks from various speakers, presentation from the Bank of England representatives. A large number of students taking the course over the previous years have also enrolled to study Economics or Economics-related subjects at top UK universities. A number of these ex-students have regularly been returning to be involved with enrichment and taster sessions over the recent years.

The Economics Department has been working closely with a number of other departments in the school including the Government & Politics and Sociology, focussing on Teaching and Learning strategies and sharing of best practice through professional development sessions.