

# A-level Economics

Hi everyone,

Our names are Ben Hetherton and Maninder Mundair. We teach the KEC A-level Economics course. Ben will be teaching your first year of A-level Economics from September.

You are likely to have met one of us if you came to the College 'Taster' sessions in June. We would like to encourage all potential Economics students to do some reading/viewing over the summer to get you thinking about the two years we've got to look forward to. For two reasons...

- Firstly, it gives a flavour of how Economics can begin to make sense of issues that you and your families face every day.
- Secondly, a few of you might be undecided on whether or not to do the course at all. It may encourage you; it may put you off. Either is fine. We need people on the programme who are committed and interested - and who know what they are doing themselves in for.

We strongly encourage you to look at the resources on the second page of this document – just to give you a flavour of the breadth and depth of the subject.

**Please answer the questions after the links. Bring your answers in note form and be prepared to discuss them in your first lesson with Ben. This work does not need to be 'handed in' but you must be prepared to contribute in an informed way in your first lesson.**

Any queries regarding A-level Economics can be addressed to either of us:

Ben – [Ben.Hetherton@ke6n.ac.uk](mailto:Ben.Hetherton@ke6n.ac.uk)

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Good luck – enjoy!

Ben and Maninder.

## Resources

[1] Go to [hWps://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ez10ADR\\_gM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ez10ADR_gM) and watch Adriene and Jacob try to explain what Economics is all about. Is this what you imagined? I can't promise you that KEC lessons will be as 'full-on' as this pair...

[2] Go to [hWps://www.tutor2u.net/economics/](https://www.tutor2u.net/economics/) blog and scroll down the blog contents. This is about the best way to get a real feel for what sorts of material you'll be studying on an Economics course.

[3] Go to the link below and consider whether the profits discussed are a fair reward for investors or morally indefensible. What could be done about the issue – if you believe it's a problem?

[hWps://www.theguardian.com/business/2023/jul/06/worlds-722-biggest-companies-making-1tn-in-windfall-profits?utm\\_source=dlvr.it&utm\\_medium=twitter](https://www.theguardian.com/business/2023/jul/06/worlds-722-biggest-companies-making-1tn-in-windfall-profits?utm_source=dlvr.it&utm_medium=twitter)

[4] Go to the link below and reflect on the issues it raises. What can be done about the 'generational gap' that exists in access to housing in the UK?

[Young adults pay heaviest price for Britain's exploding mortgage bomb | Richard ParNngton | The Guardian](https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2023/jul/06/young-adults-pay-heaviest-price-for-britains-exploding-mortgage-bomb)

[5] The following two resources are 'US' based but still a useful introduction to two core areas of Economics

[hWps://mru.org/courses/principles-economics-microeconomics/introduction-microeconomics](https://mru.org/courses/principles-economics-microeconomics/introduction-microeconomics)

[hWps://mru.org/courses/principles-economics-macroeconomics/gross-domestic-product-definition-what-is-gdp](https://mru.org/courses/principles-economics-macroeconomics/gross-domestic-product-definition-what-is-gdp)

### Questions for discussion

- What is 'economics'?
- What is the difference between micro- and macro-economics?
- Are large profits made by firms always a good thing?
- Why is there a 'generational gap' in access to housing? Does it matter?