

	Topic	<b>Key Knowledge</b> What will all students KNOW by the end of the topic?	Key Skills What key skills will be learnt/developed by the end of the topic? What will all students be able to DO by the end of the topic?	Assessment Opportunities What are the key pieces of assessment? How will students be assessed?
Theme 1 Autumn	The economic problem	<ul><li>a) The problem of scarcity (where there are unlimited wants and finite resources)</li><li>b) Choices and potential trade-offs</li><li>c) The importance of opportunity costs to consumers, producers and government</li></ul>	Demonstrate knowledge of terms/concepts linked to the economic problem and be able to apply this to various economic contexts.	One homework each week to cover knowledge and understanding. A range of exam questions, research and essay
	Business objectives	<ul> <li>a) Different business objectives and reasons for them:</li> <li>o profit maximisation</li> <li>o sales maximisation</li> <li>o satisficing</li> <li>b) Other objectives: survival, market share, cost efficiency, return on investment, employee welfare, customer satisfaction, social objectives</li> </ul>	Students will need to be able to demonstrate knowledge of the different business objectives and be able to analyse the objectives of firms using qualitative and quantitative evidence to support informed judgements relating to economic issues	questions. Opportunities for analysis and evaluation.  End of topic assessment.
	Stakeholders (economic agents) and their objectives	a) Stakeholders (economic agents) b) Stakeholder objectives c) Stakeholder conflicts d) Corporate social responsibility	Students will be able to identify the stakeholders of a firm and be able to analyse their objectives.	
	Role of an entrepreneur in the economy	a) Creative destruction (organising factors of production to create and set up an enterprise) b) Making decisions to operate, expand and develop a business c) Selling the	Students will demonstrate knowledge of the role of the entrepreneur and be able to analyse issues	

		utput for more than the cost of the inputs (adding alue)	within economics, showing an understanding of their impact on economic agents.	
Entrepre motives	st	) Profit as an incentive b) Non-financial motives: ethical tance, social entrepreneurship, independence, home vorking	Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of entrepreneurial motives and be able to evaluate motives given in a case study.	One homework each week to cover knowledge and understanding. A range of exam questions,
Factors of producti	- /	) Enterprise b) Capital, land and labour: premises, quipment, raw materials, managers and employees	Students will be able to use their knowledge of factors of production	research and essay questions. Opportunities for analysis and evaluation.
Specialis	er b)	) Division of labour: advantages and disadvantages to mployers and employees ) Specialisation: advantages and disadvantages to the rm		End of topic assessment.
The wide economic environm	ic ex	) Implications for firms of changes in: interest rates, xchange rates, taxation, unemployment, inflation	Use qualitative and quantitative evidence to evaluate the economic environment	
Demand	Cc	onsumer objectives and decisions. The demand curve.	Students will be able to demonstrate the distinction between movements along a demand curve and shifts of a demand curve.	
	ch gc fa	he factors that may cause a shift in the demand curve:, hanges in the prices of substitutes and complementary oods, changes in real incomes, changes in tastes and ashions, advertising and branding, changes in size and ge distribution of the population.	Use of demand diagrams to show the effects of changes in demand plus accompanying logical analysis	
	Ca	auses of shifts in demand:	Demonstrate knowledge of factors that may cause a shift in the demand curve. Be able use	

Supply	changes in the prices of substitutes and complementary goods, changes in real incomes, changes in tastes and fashions, advertising and branding, changes in size and age distribution of the population.  a) Producer objectives and decisions b) The supply curve c)The distinction between movements along a supply curve and shifts of a supply curve d)The factors that may cause a shift in the supply curve: changes in the costs of production, the introduction of new technology, indirect taxes, subsidies, changes in the number of firms in an industry, external shocks	diagrams to demonstrate these moments with explanations.  Use of supply diagrams to show the effects of changes in supply with logical analysis and evaluations.	One homework each week to cover knowledge and understanding. A range of exam questions, research and essay questions. Opportunities for analysis and evaluation.
Price determination	a) Equilibrium price and quantity and how they are determined b) The use of supply and demand diagrams to depict excess supply and excess demand c) The operation of market forces to eliminate excess demand and excess supply d) The use of the supply and demand model to show how shifts in demand and supply curves cause the equilibrium price and quantity to change in real-world situations e) The limitations of the supply and demand model and its predictions	Use diagrams to show demonstrate price equilibrium, excess supply and demand, with logical analysis and evaluations.	End of topic assessment.

Spring	Price Mechanism	a) Functions of the price mechanism to allocate resources: rationing, incentives, signalling b) How firms respond to a change in demand c) The price mechanism in the context of different types of markets: mass markets, niche markets d) Potential market growth	Apply knowledge and understanding of price mechanism to various economic contexts to show how economic agents are affected by and respond to economic issues	One homework each week to cover knowledge and understanding. A range of exam questions, research and essay questions. Opportunities for analysis and
	Understanding the consumer	a) Primary and secondary market research data (quantitative and qualitative) used to quantify likely demand and gain insight into consumer behaviour b) Limitations of market research, sample size and bias c) Categorising consumers: market segmentation	Students will use their knowledge to analyse the use of a firms primary and secondary research and be able to make recommendations.	evaluation.  End of topic assessment.
	The competition	<ul> <li>a) Market positioning: market mapping and market maps b) Competitive advantage of a product or service</li> <li>c) Product differentiation</li> <li>d) Adding value to products/services</li> <li>e) How firms decide on price and level of output</li> <li>f) Nature and range of markets: stable and dynamic markets</li> </ul>	Use basic mapping diagrams to analysis the competitiveness within a market.	
	Role of banks in the economy	a) Channelling savings towards investment b) Role of banks in providing credit c) Interest rates and collateral	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of role of banks.	
	Risk and liability	The meaning of risk and Implications of limited and unlimited liability.	Be able to analyse risk for firms.	
	Types and			
	sources of credit	a) Types of credit: ● loans ● overdrafts ● trade credit		

	and the impact of credit within the economy	b) Sources of credit: ● banks ● other firms c) Other types of finance: ● venture capital ● share capital ● leasing There are more and more examples of businesses/ventures starting in this way. d) Other sources of finance: ● owner's capital: personal savings ● retained profit ● sale of assets ● individual investors ● online collaborative funding e) Challenges in obtaining credit: ● role and impact of credit on the economy	Students will be able to evaluate the different sources of credit available to firms and use analysis of possibilities to make recommendations.	
	Role of banks in the economy	a) Channelling savings towards investment b) Role of banks in providing credit c) Interest rates and collateral		
Summer	Revenue and costs	a) Calculation of sales volume and sales revenue b) Calculation of average, fixed, variable and total costs c) Calculation of percentage change	Qualitative skills: using calculations to demonstrate knowledge and understanding and evaluate financial position of firms.	One homework each week to cover knowledge and understanding. A range of exam questions, research and essay
	The relationship between revenue and costs	a) Contribution: selling price – variable cost per unit b) Break-even point: total fixed costs + total variable costs = total sales revenue c) Using contribution to calculate the break-even point d) Margin of safety e) Limitations of break-even analysis.	Calculations of break even and profit. Use these to analyse and evaluate a firm's position using given information.	questions. Opportunities for analysis and evaluation.
		a) Profit as an incentive in a competitive market: market entry and exit b) How firms calculate: ● gross profit ● operating profit ● profit for the year (net profit) c) Statement of comprehensive income (profit and loss account)		End of topic assessment.

	Business survival and cash flow	<ul> <li>d) How firms measure profitability: ● gross profit margin</li> <li>● operating profit margin ● profit for the year (net profit) margin e) How firms increase profit</li> <li>a) Distinction between profit and cash flow</li> <li>b) Importance of cash flow for business survival</li> <li>c) Forecasting and interpreting cash flow</li> <li>d) Use of a cash-flow forecast to identify credit requirements and minimise risk.</li> </ul>	Calculate ratios to determine the profits with in a firm, use these to analyse and evaluate a firms position using given information.  Use calculations and forecast figures to analyse a firm's financial position.	
	The wider economic environment	Implications for firms of changes in: ● interest rates ● exchange rates ● taxation ● unemployment ● inflation		
	Government intervention and failure	a) Purpose of intervention with reference to market failure in various contexts b) Methods of government intervention: ● regulation ● legislation ● indirect taxation ● grants and subsidies ● voluntary agreements c) Causes of government failure: ● distortion of price signals ● unintended consequences ● excessive administrative costs ● information gaps d) Government failure in various market	Students will be able to analyse and evaluate the use and need for Government intervention.  Students will be able to use quantitative and qualitative data to establish the causes and outcomes of government failure.	
Theme 2 Autumn	Growth	a) Objectives of growth: ● to achieve economies of scale (internal and external) ● increased market power over consumers and suppliers ● increased market share and brand recognition ● increased profitability	Students will use graphs to illustrate economies of scale and market share and compare data where necessary  Calculations of profitability will be used	One homework each week to cover knowledge and understanding. A range of exam questions, research and essay questions. Opportunities

	b) Problems arising from growth: ● diseconomies of scale ● internal communication ● potential skills shortages c) The role of corporate culture	Graphs to illustrate diseconomies of scale will be used and data to explain where skills shortages exist	for analysis and evaluation.
Methods of growth	a) Organic and inorganic growth b) Horizontal, vertical and conglomerate integration	Diagrams to illustrate these concepts will be used as well as real life examples	End of topic assessment.
How small firms compete	a) Small-firm survival in competitive markets:  • product differentiation and unique selling points (USPs) • flexibility in responding to customer needs • customer service • targeting niche markets • achieving competitive advantage through relationships with stakeholders	Investigation into real life examples and case studies will be used	Dec – Assessment Window 1
Research and development (R&D) and innovation  How the digital	a) Competitive advantage through innovation b) Incentive to increase market power c) Product and process innovation d) Role of state funding e) Product life cycle and extension strategies	Graphical representation of various product life cycles will be investigated as well as case studies on the impact of state funding, innovation and competitive advantage	
economy affects markets and firms	a) Market information in the digital economy: ● price comparison sites ● viral marketing ● social media b) The supply-side: ● micromarketing ● online retailing and online distribution ● recruiting and training staff with digital skills c) The demand-side: ● satisfying consumers with the long tail ● wider geographical markets.	Use of the internet to show how price comparison sites work and online retailing has impacted on modern firms	

	d) Impact on markets and firms: ● impact on costs, prices, profit and loss ● firm creation and destruction in a new business environment.	Understand simple accounts; the calculation of costs, prices, profit and loss	
Spring Price elasticity of demand (PED)	<ul> <li>a)The significance of price elasticity of demand to firms (in both niche and mass markets) in terms of implications for pricing.</li> <li>b) Calculation of price elasticity of demand c) Interpretation of numerical values of price elasticity of demand d) The factors influencing price elasticity of demand e) The relationship between price elasticity of demand and total revenue.</li> </ul>	Students will develop competence in <b>quantitative skills</b> : Calculations of elasticity and interpret the result.	One homework each week to cover knowledge and understanding. A range of exam questions, research and essay questions. Opportunities for analysis and evaluation.
Competing on price	a) Pricing strategies: ● cost plus (calculating mark up on unit cost) ● price skimming ● penetration ● predatory ● competitive ● psychological b) Factors that determine the most appropriate pricing strategy for a particular situation: ● number of USPs/amount of differentiation ● price elasticity of demand ● amount of competition ● strength of brand ● stage in the product life cycle ● costs and the need to make a profit c) Changes in pricing to reflect social trends (online ales and price comparisons sites)  a)The impact of marketing on the demand curve: ● product differentiation ● advertising and other	Use the marketing mix (4Ps) to compare and analyse marketing techniques for a variety of firms in different markets  Draw, interpret and explain demand curves	End of topic assessment.  March – Assessment Window 2

Types	of non-	promotional methods ● distribution methods b)		
price		Devising appropriate marketing approaches		
compe	etition			
	e elasticity nand (YED	<ul> <li>a) The significance of income elasticity of demand to firms</li> <li>b) Calculation of income elasticity of demand</li> <li>c) Interpretation of numerical values of income elasticity of demand</li> <li>d) The factors influencing income elasticity of demand</li> </ul>	Students will develop competence in <b>quantitative skills</b> : Calculations of elasticity (and how YED and PED are different when shown graphically) and interpret the result	
Produc	ctivity	a) Productivity (output per unit of input in a given time period): factors influencing productivity, link between productivity and competitiveness, productivity and wages, productivity and economic growth b) Distinction between labour and capital intensive production	Calculation of productivity and be able to analyse and evaluate these results	
Capaci utilisat	•	<ul> <li>a) Full capacity and spare capacity</li> <li>b) Capacity utilisation: current output (divided by)</li> <li>maximum possible output (as a percentage)</li> <li>c) Implications of under- and over-utilisation of capacity</li> <li>d) Ways of improving capacity utilisation</li> </ul>	Calculate capacity and analyse and evaluate the results	
	ncy and etitiveness	<ul><li>a) Quality: control, assurance, Total Quality</li><li>Management (TQM)</li><li>b) Continuous improvement (Kaizen)</li><li>c) Just in time (JIT) management of stock</li></ul>	Review case studies of firms who have improved efficiency. Illustrate methods where applicable using graphs (JIT)	

	using lean production Impact on costs and sales revenue	d) Competitive advantage from lean production  a) Impact on average costs b) Minimising waste of resources c) Competitive advantage of short product development lead times	Calculations of costs and average costs and analyse the impact on firms	
Summer	Globalisation	a) Characteristics of globalisation: increased investment flows, world trade rising as a proportion of world Gross Domestic Product (GDP), increased migration b) Factors contributing to globalisation in the last 50 years: trade liberalisation, capital market liberalisation, political change resulting in the opening up of China and the former Soviet Union, reduced cost of transport and communications, increased significance of global (transnational) companies	Detailed analyse of major world economies, including but not limited to the BRIC nations. Use of internet, videos, case studies and private research will aid this task.	One homework each week to cover knowledge and understanding. A range of exam questions, research and essay questions. Opportunities for analysis and evaluation.
	Developed, emerging and developing economies	a) Growth rate of the UK and BRIC (Brazil, Russia, India and China) economies since 2000 b) Indicators of growth: GDP per capita, literacy, health, Human Development Index (HDI) c) Characteristics of developed (mature), emerging and developing economies d) Mean and median incomes	Use of up to date world economic data, calculations of average incomes and GDP per capita, investigation of current HDI tables	End of topic assessment.
	International trade  Exchange rates	a) Specialisation and international trade b) Trading blocs c) Trade and growth d) Imports and exports: visibles and invisibles e) Impact of cheap imports on standards of living  a) Changes in exchange rates b) Impact of changing exchange rates on firms c) Interpretation of exchange rate data d) Interpretation of effective exchange rates	Research into world trading blocs, their history and purpose, analysis of balance of trade of different nations and quantitative understanding of the impact of cheap imports on UK firms and people  Calculation of exchange rates (£\$E etc) and the impact of strong/weak currencies on firms and people	

The economic	a) Understanding of the economic cycle b) Characteristics of	Understand the illustration of the cycle stages and	One homework each
cycle	a boom c) Characteristics of a recession d) Implications for	what this means to firms and people	week to cover knowledge
·	firms of fluctuations in economic activity	, ,	and understanding. A
	\ \ \ . \ . \ . \ . \ . \ . \ . \ . \		range of exam questions,
Circular flow of	<ul><li>a) The circular flow of income</li><li>b) The impact of injections into and withdrawals from the</li></ul>	Graphical illustration used and students must understand the formula that assists in economic	research and essay
income,	circular flow of income	growth (AD = $C + I + G + (X - M)$	questions. Opportunities for analysis and
expenditure and	c) Factors influencing AD: components C + I + G + (X-M)	growth (AB C 11 C (A W)	evaluation.
output	d) Factors influencing AS: changes in the cost of inputs and		
	resources, changes in productivity		
	a) Inflation, deflation and disinflation	Quantitative understanding updated statistics and	End of topic assessment
Inflation	b) Interpret price indices (RPI and CPI) and the rate of	graphs to show trends to help with analysis and	Life of topic assessment
	inflation	evaluation	
	c) Real and nominal values, constant and current prices		
	d) Causes of inflation: demand pull, cost push e) The impact of inflation on firms: uncertainty, loss of		
	international competitiveness		
	f) The impact of inflation on individuals: loss of real income,		
	savers and borrowers		
	a) Employment, underemployment and unemployment	Quantitative understanding updated statistics and	
Employment and	b) Measures of unemployment: the claimant count, the	graphs to show trends to help with analysis and	
unemployment	International Labour Organisation (ILO) measure	evaluation	
	c) The causes of unemployment: structural unemployment,		
	occupational immobility, geographical immobility,		
	technological unemployment, demand deficiency and cyclical unemployment		
	d) The impact of unemployment on firms and individuals		
	a) Economic growth b) Low unemployment c) Low and	Data and graphical analysis, linked to case studies	
	stable rate of inflation d) Balance of payments equilibrium on current account		
	Carrent account		

Possible				
macroeconom	ic			
objectives	The nature and impact of the following on the economy, firms	Investigate government thinking at the time (and		
	and economic agents:	historically where relevant) and analyse and		
	a) Fiscal policy: adjusting levels of government spending and	evaluate strategies being used. Use graphs and		
Policy instrum	35 5	diagrams where relevant to help (such as floating		
	b) Monetary policy: adjusting interest rates to affect	and non floating exchange rates, inflation and		
	aggregate demand	unemployment)		
	c) Supply-side policies: taxes, benefits, education and			
	training, grants and subsidies infrastructure d) Exchange rate policy: floating rate			
	d) Exchange rate policy. Hoating rate			
	a) Inflation and unemployment			
	b) Economic growth and negative externalities			
	c) The issues governments face in managing the macro-			
Potential polic	y economy			
conflicts and	d) How different macroeconomic perspectives influence			
trade-offs	policy decisions			
	e) The likely effects of individual policy instruments on			
	specific problems; possible unintended consequences			
			MOCK EXAMS – Early June	
Revision for M	ock			
exams				