**ECONOMICS**

Dear Students

Thank you for choosing to study Economics. I hope you will find the experience of the course both informative and challenging and possibly even useful as a steppingstone to further study or as a future career.

All students will be provided with digital resources to support their study and to prepare them for the final examinations. There will also be opportunities to purchase resources such as textbooks, revision guides and A level standard magazines that can further support your studies, full details of which will be provided at the start of the course in September.

Economics is a very topical subject. Data changes every day and there is an enormous amount of material available on-line now. Popular sources of information for students are a website called “Tutor2U” or a YouTube channel by Econplus Dal. All the newspapers have websites, and the BBC is a very good independent view of the world. Whilst using and analysing data is one part of the work the subject also involves a great deal of essay writing in both examinations in the summer of Year 12, so reading around the subject is encouraged.

Summer preparation

1. Look at a daily paper or on-line resources and **build up a portfolio of items** relating to Economics. This could cover UK Economic Growth, Youth unemployment or even what is likely to happen to interest rates. These are all macroeconomic topics. However, the course will also cover microeconomics e.g. it could be the worries over the housing market, whether there should be additional taxes on sugar or alcohol, should we build the HS2 rail expansion to the North or should the government restrict the use of gambling sites? Choose one of these articles and be prepared to briefly speak about it in class.
2. **Read a relevant book**. There are numerous to choose from-see Amazon for lists-but Tim Harford is a very prolific writer e.g. The Undercover economist or FreakEconomics (or SuperEconomics) by Levitt and Dubner were popular books and often at the top in the mainstream non-fiction lists.

I look forward to meeting you in the new term in September.

**Ms J Dixon (Head of Economics)**