

## Head of Economics – Additional Information

Thank you for your interest in our Head of Economics post. This document will provide some subject specific background, but we hope that you will also take the opportunity to explore the school's main website at [www.northgate.suffolk.sch.uk](http://www.northgate.suffolk.sch.uk) as well as our Sixth Form specific website at [www.northgatesixthform.co.uk](http://www.northgatesixthform.co.uk), from where you can download a copy of last year's Sixth Form Prospectus.

Until September 2018 Business Studies and Economics were incorporated within a joint department, successfully delivering multiple courses at Key Stages 4 and 5.

Whilst it is still the intention of the school for these two subject areas to work closely together going forward, changes in personnel have provided the opportunity for one full-time Economics specialist to take over the teaching and running of the AQA A Level Economics course, which consistently recruits two groups into each new Year 12. The generic Head of Department job description available to download details the responsibilities associated with this element of the job, which in future could include the line-management of others teaching Economics.

However, because of the nature of the subject and the fact we are looking to appoint a practitioner with previous experience, the TLR for the post has been enhanced by incorporating responsibility for establishing closer connections with local business, the purpose being to generate potential visiting speakers to enrich our post-16 curriculum, provide contacts for subject leaders looking to utilise local case studies, and provide potential work experience placements for Sixth Form students. To this end the development of this post coincides with a decision to allow Year 12 A Level students joining us from September 2019 to study 3 subjects (rather than the current 4), alongside an enrichment package that in some cases will incorporate an element of work experience. With respect to this the successful applicant will liaise closely with the Head of Sixth Form, who is overseeing the development of the new post-16 enrichment package for 3 A Level students.

Northgate aims to maintain a maximum A Level group size of 18, with groups receiving 5 hours of input per week. The majority of our post-16 learners elect to study at Northgate having previously attended other secondary schools across south Suffolk, meaning there is a positive mix of students from different backgrounds.

Lessons that are dynamic and seek to actively engage pupils and students in their own learning have led to good academic achievement in Economics and helped sustain strong numbers. There is an emphasis on teaching and learning excellence throughout the school, with an active Teaching and Learning Group supporting further developments in this area. The five teaching and learning principles we refer to as the 5Rs, aimed at encouraging students to increasingly take responsibility for their own learning as they progress through Years 7 to 13, are summarised on a one page document also available for download.

Northgate benefits from modern facilities, with Economics lessons being taught within the purpose built Sixth Form Centre. An excellent range of resources, good IT facilities and extensive professional development opportunities will be available to the successful candidate.