



## **BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT INFORMATION**

The King's School is a learning School committed to educating the whole person and to effective lifelong learning for all its members. As a Grammar School, it prepares pupils to achieve the highest grades and to enter the most competitively sought after universities, careers and professions.

### **OUR AIMS**

To secure excellent results

To be a caring community

To further develop the School as a learning community committed to excellence in all it does

### **THE POST**

The successful candidate will be expected to teach Business with a hope that they may develop into teaching Economics in the future. The ability to offer an additional subject at KS3 or KS4 is desirable.

### **THE DEPARTMENT**

The Business and Economics department currently comprises of two full time members of staff. This post is available due to the expansion of the department. The department is based on the first floor of the Administration Building with two large dedicated teaching rooms and a department office.

### **BUSINESS**

Business is one of the most popular options at GCSE and A-Level with growing student numbers each year.

Following the AQA specification, GCSE students are introduced to issues concerning the setting up and operation of a business. The course explores the activities of business and the main functional areas of organisations, both large and small. The course encourages students to appreciate that businesses must operate within society and that this involves businesses engaging with a wide range of stakeholders who will hold differing perspectives.

A-Level students also follow the AQA specification. The main functional areas of business are considered in a variety of contexts. The topics lend themselves to studying and engaging with the business world. The course encourages students to follow business developments and think critically about contemporary business issues. Most of the assessment material is based on real business situations. By examining and thinking critically about real business situations as they study the subject, students will gain an insight into different contexts which will help them to understand the key issues in any situation and compare and contrast this with other situations and apply their understanding.

The Business courses are focussed around levels of response, with the skills of analysis and evaluation being as important as the actual content.

## **ECONOMICS**

Economics is offered at A-Level only and student numbers have been consistently high and are growing.

Students follow the AQA specification. A significant component of both the AS and A Level qualification focuses on microeconomics. The theoretical workings of the free market provide a good starting point for explanation and analysis. Imperfections and market failures provide a lead into discussing the merits and drawbacks of government intervention and the usefulness of theory in explaining observations taken from the real world of economics. Traditional economic theory is challenged by the consideration of behavioural economics.

Both AS and A Level qualifications will also focus on 'macroeconomics'. It will provide students with the technical and analytical tools required to understand how the economy functions on both the domestic and global stage. The course encourages students to adopt a critical approach to their study of policy through understanding the limitations and conflicts that they present.

## **ASSESSMENT AND LEARNING**

Every class taught is in preparation for an examination or controlled assessment, therefore assessment is a key element of the department.

Homework is set on a weekly basis for all groups. Years 10 and 11 are expected to complete 1-2 hours of assessed homework for Business Studies each week. Years 12 and 13 are expected to complete 2-3 hours of assessed homework each week, with another 1-2 hours of other work/reading as well. Marking must be done quickly and accurately based on examination criteria, usually levels of response.

Assessment in the classroom is also important and the use of both formative and summative assessment on a regular basis provides vital information to inform interventions strategies and plot student progress. All members of the department are expected to use assessment for learning strategies to inform their lesson preparation and teaching.

The department assesses all written work in terms of effort and attainment to try to stretch the gifted and talented and to monitor the less able.

## **ENHANCING THE CURRICULUM**

The department currently runs a number of extra-curricular activities including:

- Student Investor Challenge which runs from October and is an activity based online. Each group is given £100,000 in virtual money to 'trade' on the FTSE 100 stock market. Around 6900 teams entered across the UK and we had 22 teams entered from The King's School. We currently have one team who has qualified for the semi-finals!
- The Apprentice Challenge is based on the BBC television programme. The boys have time in lesson and lunchtime to prepare presentations around a similar scenario used in The Apprentice. This year, the boys designed a new water bottle, creating a brand logo and advert to present back to the class. This has given the boys scope to be as innovative and creative as possible, whilst also exploiting links to Business Studies.

For any further information, please feel free to email the Subject Leader:

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## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The King's School is a selective Grammar School for boys which converted to Academy status in August 2011. King's consistently achieves excellent examination results and an overwhelming percentage of students go on to further education with the majority achieving their first place choice and many of these within Russell Group Universities.

The School has always enjoyed a strong reputation in the town and surrounding area. King's also enjoys an international reputation because of its association with Sir Isaac Newton, a pupil at the School in the 1650s before he left for Trinity College, Cambridge, with whom we maintain strong links.

Our students come from local Lincolnshire Primary Schools as well as from towns and villages in the neighbouring counties of Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire and Rutland. Each year the available places in Year 7 are oversubscribed. The School has expanded by over forty per cent in the last fifteen years to its present 1,120 students on roll, with 275 of those in the Sixth Form. In September 2017 the school will further expand taking in an extra Year 7 form for the fourth time, as our Published Admission Number for this year group increased from 145 to 174 in September 2014. By 2020 we anticipate the school roll to be around 1200 students. At Sixth Form level there is a link with Kesteven and Grantham Girls' school which allows students access to a greater range of A Level courses.

Extra-curricular activities figure largely in the School's life: music, both choral and instrumental, is outstanding. The School has a long tradition of sporting excellence at both local and national levels. The scale and variety of the sports and activities programme is comparable with that found in the private sector. Indeed many of the School's fixtures and contacts, especially in rugby, water polo and cricket, are with independent Schools. Some 200 students are involved in the CCF (Army and Air Sections) and the School maintains strong links with the military tradition of the town and surrounding area.

The School occupies a prominent position within the heritage centre of Grantham and includes grade 1 and 2 listed buildings, which include the original School House of our most famous alumni, Sir Isaac Newton and Lord Burghley – Lord Treasurer to Elizabeth I. Whilst the main School site is at capacity, we have a twenty three acre sports facility a short walk from the School. In recent years over £3 million has been invested in extensive building and refurbishment including: a new three storey teaching Block; Sixth Form Centre; Music Department; a major Kitchen and Dining Room refurbishment; new Science Laboratory; a Conferencing suite, a Food Technology Classroom and most recently we have embarked on the building of a new Sports Hall at the playing fields. Dependent on capital funding, our next project will be the total refurbishment of all science laboratories.

The School currently employs 66 teaching staff and 67 support staff. The Head Master is supported by a Senior Leadership Team consisting of 2 Deputy Headmasters, 2 Assistant Head Teachers and the Bursar. The King's School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this

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commitment. Further information about the School, including a full prospectus, can be found at [www.kings.lincs.sch.uk](http://www.kings.lincs.sch.uk)



### THE LOCALITY

- Grantham is a pleasant, historic market town – the current population is approximately 40,000 however Grantham has Growth Point status with the District Council having plans to increase both employment and the population to 60,000 in 15 to 20 years.
- Lincolnshire is one of the safest places to live in the UK.
- Grantham and South Kesteven District (population – about 130,000) has good quality and very affordable housing in a wide range of price brackets. Grantham retains some of the Medieval, Tudor, Georgian and Victorian splendour of its past, including an Arts Centre, Theatre and Museum.
- The town has a range of excellent primary and secondary Schools. There are well regarded comprehensive Schools which co-exist well with The King's School and Kesteven and Grantham Girl's School – the town's Grammar Schools.
- Grantham is well served by good transport links – the East Coast main railway line (King's Cross in 65/70 minutes), the A1 next to the town and good cross country rail and road links with the major towns of Peterborough, Lincoln and Nottingham. A number of airports are also close by - East Midlands, Stansted, Birmingham and Robin Hood airport near Doncaster.
- Grantham is surrounded by some lovely villages in a very large green County, a culture of healthy outdoor activity is widely shared in the community. Smaller centres such as Stamford and Oakham are 30 – 40 minutes by car and the countryside to the west in the Vale of Belvoir is magnificent. A baroque palace at nearby Harlaxton Manor hosts the UK College of an American University, and the large National Trust Property, equestrian centre and deer park of Belton House sits to the east.
- Grantham boasts its own hospital and College of Further Education, is well provided with parks and walks along the River Witham and is surrounded by picturesque villages affording a very high quality of life in an area which preserves strong community ties.

- There is a wide choice of good housing either in the town or surrounding country and the roads are relatively traffic free making journeys to work both easy and pleasant.