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| **Welcome to A level economics**  We are looking forward to teaching you in September and hope that you are excited too. We have put together some things that you can read/watch or listen to as a preparation for your A level studies (see below). At the end there is also some research we would like you to do, some of which needs to be done over time because it involves monitoring the impact of the easing of lockdown restrictions on the UK economy. We hope you enjoy doing this, keep a record of what you watch/read it will be useful later in your sixth form studies. If you have any questions please let me know.  Mrs A Kennedy [a.kennedy@holt.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:a.kennedy@holt.wokingham.sch.uk)  Mr T Hutchins [t.hutchins@holt.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:t.hutchins@holt.wokingham.sch.uk) |
| **Book Recommendations**  [7 Books to Read if You’re an Economics Student | Top Universities](https://www.topuniversities.com/courses/economics-econometrics/7-books-read-if-youre-economics-student)  <https://www.economics.ox.ac.uk/undergraduate-reading-suggestions> |

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| **Film/ Documentary Recommendations**  There are a number of useful films and documentaries that will develop your wider understanding of the topics covered. [Films - Studying Economics](http://www.studyingeconomics.ac.uk/the-little-bits-we-like/films/) |

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| **Research Activity** |
| The following task is designed to introduce you some of the topics you will be studying and develop some of the skills you need: research, identifying key information, analysis, application to data and report writing.  It is important when studying economics that you have a good overview of the current performance of the UK Economy. So you will need to get up to date figures for the key economic indicators:   * Unemployment * Balance of Payments * Economic Growth * Inflation   As well as knowing about   * Interest rates * Tax rates * Levels of universal benefit * Average house prices across regions * Average wage/salary across UK regions * Savings rates   Find the latest figures and a graph of these indicators for the last 10 years. Use the websites below or google into <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DoNaVhRek3A>  <https://www.tutor2u.net/economics/blog>  Pop the stats into the search bar of trading economics <https://tradingeconomics.com/united-kingdom>  Just jot down the key points so that you can discuss them in the first lessons.  It is also really important to keep up to date with the economic performance of other regions in the world eg countries in Sub Saharan Africa, SE Asia, USA, Canada, China and Europe.  <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world>  <https://news.sky.com/world>  <https://www.ft.com/video> |

Enjoy browsing all the news channels and economics sites…..the world is an interesting and complex place for sure!! Studying economics will help you understand how and why decisions are made on various issues and how they impact on citizens and the extent to which quality of life is improved or not. Studying economics will enable you to develop a critical awareness of issues so that you can draw your own opinions and ‘hold your own’ in a debate, whether it is over a meal with your family, out with friends or in a formal setting.

We look forward to teaching you in September!