

Economics

What will I study and learn?

Economics can broadly be defined as the study of choice, scarce resources and how resources are used in society. Economics affects everything we do, not merely at work or in the shops, but also in the home and the voting booth. It influences how well we look after our planet, the future we leave for our children, the extent to which the UK can care for the poor and the disadvantaged, and the resources we have for enjoying ourselves.

The A level is composed of two core modules:

Microeconomics

Scarcity and choice, how competitive markets work, competition and market power, labour market, market failure and government intervention.

Macroeconomics

Economic policy objectives and indicators of macroeconomic performance, aggregate demand and supply, the application of policy instruments, the global context, and the financial sector.

What skills will be developed?

Economics develops knowledge and skills that can be applied to virtually any situation or issue (read *Freakonomics* if you have any doubts as to this). Almost all news stories, for example, have an economic theme. You will be encouraged to research such topics using newspapers and other websites. Discussion and debate are an important element of lesson activity, developing the skills of evaluation and judgement as well as data analysis.

Beyond the classroom

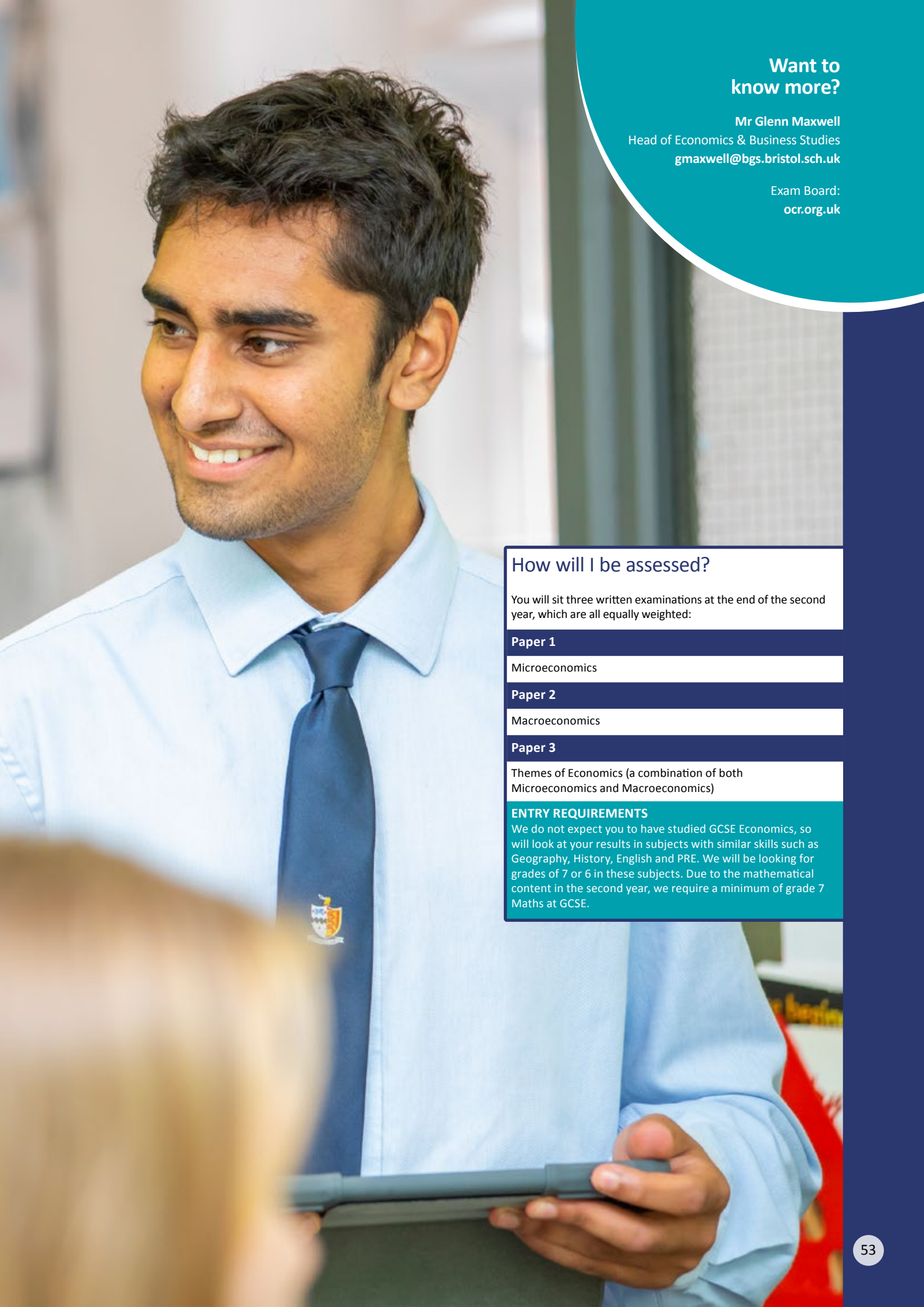
The last few years have seen us: regularly attend the Bristol Festival of Economics; participate in the Institute of Economic Affairs' Regional Lecture; win the Bristol University Behavioural Economics Schools' Challenge; take part in a debate on Brexit with King's College Taunton; invite alumni to speak to our current Sixth-form students about their careers and lives as economists, for instance, working in New York City during the start of the recent financial crisis; and visit San Francisco, seeing economics in practice.

“Economics has given me an introduction into the basics of finance, which has led me to pursue the subject after school. The teachers always relate the content we learn in class to real-life events, which I find engaging.

Issy, OB

Courses: Economics, English Literature,
Mathematics and Further Mathematics





Want to know more?

Mr Glenn Maxwell
Head of Economics & Business Studies
gmaxwell@bgs.bristol.sch.uk

Exam Board:
ocr.org.uk

How will I be assessed?

You will sit three written examinations at the end of the second year, which are all equally weighted:

Paper 1

Microeconomics

Paper 2

Macroeconomics

Paper 3

Themes of Economics (a combination of both Microeconomics and Macroeconomics)

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

We do not expect you to have studied GCSE Economics, so will look at your results in subjects with similar skills such as Geography, History, English and PRE. We will be looking for grades of 7 or 6 in these subjects. Due to the mathematical content in the second year, we require a minimum of grade 7 Maths at GCSE.