



THE MINSTER SCHOOL

Social Studies



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THE DEPARTMENT

The Social Studies Department has an excellent track record of success. We are strongly committed to making further improvements in achievement and wish to strengthen a good team further by appointing an outstanding teacher of Business and Economics.

THE CURRICULUM

At Key Stage 4 we offer GCSEs in Business and Economics, both with AQA and also Edexcel's BTEC First in Travel and Tourism. The popularity of Business in particular has grown in recent years with three groups running in both Year 10 and Year 11. Each year there is one group each of Economics and Travel and Tourism

At Key Stage 5 students follow the AQA GCE courses in Business, Economics, and Psychology and the Edexcel GCE in Politics. Uptake is excellent - in Year 12 there are usually two groups in both Business and Politics, one group in Economics and four groups in Psychology.

OUR APPROACH TO TEACHING

The department implements the whole school teaching and learning model built upon engagement, feedback, climate and challenge. Our subjects are easily applied to the real world and contemporary issues are discussed at length. Students are encouraged to work in groups and present ideas in a professional manner using the software available. Targets are aspirational and expectations are high. Tracking and intervention is well embedded and parents receive regular and constructive feedback on students who are underachieving.



The Social Studies Department occupies the four rooms at the end of the C block on the ground floor. All rooms have a PC and an interactive whiteboard. A set of 12 laptops is available and these allow colleagues to plan research activities into their lessons. Our BTEC students benefit most from these laptops where they are used for research, and for completing their coursework. Recently the software has been updated to Windows 10 and Office 365 and all hard drives were replaced with SSDs, improving their performance significantly.



THE DEPARTMENT

Paul Bowes Curriculum Team Leader, Teacher of Business, Economics and Travel and Tourism

Amanda Blackwell Teacher of Business and Economics

Janie Burrows Teacher of Psychology

Clive Owen Teacher of Politics

Phil Rowson Assistant Head Teacher, Teacher of Business

Melissa Shaw Curriculum Team Leader for the Extended Project Qualification, Teacher of Psychology and EPQ

Adriano Staiano Teacher of Business

Andy Wall Assistant Head Teacher, Teacher of Politics

The department's experience and diversity is evident with teachers from the Leadership Team and other curriculum areas contributing to the delivery of a range of subjects. This ensures broad, balanced and informed discussions during department meetings.



RESULTS 2018

We offer a broad range of subjects and as measured by ALPS our scores are:

GCSE Business	5 Good
GCSE Economics	2 Outstanding
A Level Business	4 Very good
A Level Economics	4 Very good
A Level Politics	3 Excellent
A Level Psychology	3 Excellent

Travel and Tourism is a new course and our first cohort have just started Year 11.

