

Emmanuel College

Generating real enthusiasm for a thought-provoking course

Emmanuel College is an 11-18 City Technology College with a national reputation for excellence. GCSE results place it among the very best non-selective, co-educational, comprehensive schools in the country. The 2015 percentage of students gaining five or more A*-C grades was 85% including English and maths, while 50% of students achieved the English Baccalaureate.

Our GCSE Economics was introduced for first teaching at the College in September 2013 and 40 students are currently studying for it. Gavin Clarke, Head of Economics told us, "I want students to have a real passion for the subject, hence lessons are fun yet informative, and I use a lot of social media (mainly YouTube, where G Conomics (<http://bit.ly/1TaHSC1>) has recently been endorsed by OCR, and Twitter) to encourage student participation and engagement."

He added, "I try to raise students' aspirations by giving them access to alumni who very kindly give of their time to speak to the students, or allow me to interview them and then post the interviews online."

He's also keen to give students a competitive edge so he "picks the brains" of university admissions officers and subject specialists here at OCR, and asks them to come and speak to the students.

Students are encouraged to think for themselves. They have a thriving Economics Society, which they run. They read widely outside of lessons and are constantly encouraged to think and apply their knowledge of Economics through their participation in The Bank of England Challenge, IFS Share Trading Competition, and the RES Essay Writing competition.

To enthuse students further, the College has plans to create a classroom that will be solely used for teaching Economics and to fit this out externally so it looks like you're walking into a share trading floor.



Why OCR GCSE Economics?

Gavin told us, "I have been an Assistant Examiner with OCR for many years and I have always felt that there has been a great deal of willing from the board to give help and assistance where necessary. In my view, the specification provides great clarity to students and staff with regard to what they need to learn and the depth of the learning." He also commented, "Support from OCR is first rate."

We asked Gavin what advice he would give to centres considering offering our GCSE Economics course to get started on it. As well as suggesting getting in touch with our team and invite Economics specialist Elisabeth Ring to your centre, he also said he would be happy to discuss it with anyone wishing to contact him.

Read more about our GCSE (9-1) Economics here <http://www.ocr.org.uk/economics>

"I want students to have a real passion for the subject, hence lessons are fun yet informative, and I use a lot of social media."

For more information contact:

Elisabeth Ring, OCR Subject Specialist,
economics@ocr.org.uk, [@OCR_BusEcon](https://twitter.com/OCR_BusEcon)

Gavin Clarke, Head of Economics,
clarkeg@emmanuelctc.org.uk, [@G-Conomics](https://twitter.com/G-Conomics)

Keep up to date with all the relevant news about our qualifications, register for email updates at ocr.org.uk/updates

ocr.org.uk/economics

