

Economics forms a powerful tool for establishing democracy. Confronted with left and right-wing policies and different schools of thought, students will naturally form a conclusion about where they lie on the spectrum: free market or interventionist. However, this is inherently in constant flux. As they build up their knowledge over time, students see economics as a tool for improving everyone's lives and reducing poverty. Students see the interrelationship between seemingly inconsequential events such as UK growth causing misery in developing nations. Students learn about the benefits and failures of the free market and the consequences of inequality, which they may be able to equate to their own lives. Students emerge from KS5 as more rounded and conscientious thinkers who look beyond the balance sheet and acquire a new lens to look at the world through.

Within the Swanlea curriculum, social capital is the key tool that is gained. The analytical and intellectual skills of economics are far reaching into every aspect of real life, for example: Why is the airline industry the least profitable in the world? Why build HS2 at such great effort and cost? Why may/may not crypto replace traditional currency? Why create the green belt around London? The real-life knowledge that students gain will stay with them for the rest of their \must learn to take into account everyone's viewpoint and write balanced prose, reflecting the fact that every economic decision has relative winners and losers.

