

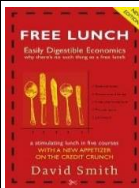
### Welcome to A level economics

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 coronavirus 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 career. If you have any questions please let me know.

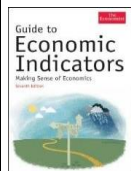
Mrs Styles ([m.styles@holt.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:m.styles@holt.wokingham.sch.uk))

### Book Recommendations

It is vital that you are accustomed to completing wider reading around topics you will cover during your A levels. As a starting point, we recommend the following titles:



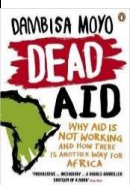
Free Lunch,  
David Smith



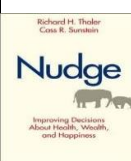
Guide to Economic Indicators,  
The Economist



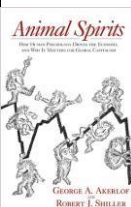
The Undercover Economist, and The Undercover Economist Strikes Back  
Tim Harford



Dead Aid and Winner Takes All  
Dambisa Moyo



Nudge  
Thaler and Sunstein



Animal Spirits  
Akerlof and Shiller

### Film/ Documentary Recommendations

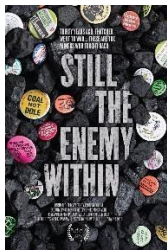
There are a number of useful films and documentaries that will develop your wider understanding of the topics covered.



Margin Call – About the collapse of Lehman Brothers and how it triggered the start of the global financial crisis in 2006

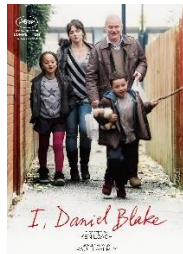


The Big Short – about the prediction of the financial crisis through identifying the toxic bonds being sold



Still The Enemy Within – How the privatisation of national industries under Margaret Thatcher's government in the 1980s led to the Miner's Strike

**I, Daniel Blake** is a 2016 drama film directed by Ken Loach and written by longtime collaborator Paul Laverty. It stars Dave Johns as **Daniel Blake**, who is denied employment and support allowance despite his doctor finding him unfit to work.



### Research Activity

The following task is designed to introduce you some of the topics you will be studying and also develop some of the skills you need: research, identifying key information, analysis, application to data and report writing.

During your first Economics lessons in September you will be expected to know 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
- Redistribution of Income
- The Environment
- Fiscal Budget

Find the latest figures and a graph of these indicators for the last 10 years. Use the websites below.

[www.tutor2u.net](http://www.tutor2u.net) <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/10613201> <https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy>  
<http://www.theguardian.com/data>  
<http://www.economist.com/>

**Also** look at what has been happening in the economy since the start of the year, there have been some significant changes. Consider which of these are likely to be permanent changes and which more temporary. Here are a few links to get you started:

[https://members.tortoisemedia.com/2020/04/20/corona-shock/content.html?sig=nPJVqnRZtAmqMK8LQ1w362AeA\\_p\\_JS6376dZ-ps3X3M](https://members.tortoisemedia.com/2020/04/20/corona-shock/content.html?sig=nPJVqnRZtAmqMK8LQ1w362AeA_p_JS6376dZ-ps3X3M)  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-52364811>  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-52367052>  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-52393472>

Just jot down the key points so that you are able to discuss them in the first lessons.

**[Finally keep up to date with what is happening in the both the UK and the world economy by setting the economy page of the BBC website as your homepage and read or watch the news every day.](#)**

### Social Media and Websites

A who's who of who to follow on social media.....

You need to be aware of current global events that are related to the units you will be studying; so look out for things in the news to do with the topics we are studying . You can use Google Alerts to make this easier <http://www.google.co.uk/alerts?hl=en>

Other websites: [www.tutor2u.net](http://www.tutor2u.net) <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/10613201>  
<https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy> <http://www.theguardian.com/data>  
<http://www.economist.com/> <http://www.gapminder.org/> <http://www.tradingeconomics.com/>  
<https://econogirl.wordpress.com/>

There are also various good youtube channels – look for tutor2u, pajholden and EconplusDal plus this site is great for revision <http://www.s-cool.co.uk/>