

ECONOMICS AND MANAGEMENT

“How do banks make money?” and “Why doesn’t the government just print more money?” Such were the naïve but intriguing questions I asked myself throughout my early interest in Economics. Gradually, my questions matured; yet the answers inevitably led to more questions on an ever-increasing scale of difficulty. Such numerous questions and the diversity of the answers helped me to realise the vital importance of Economics. I have developed particular interest in the effectiveness of theoretical ideas as a means to predict the implications of changes in the economic environment.

In order to enhance my knowledge and understanding of this area, I attended the Adam Smith Institute Independent Seminar on the Open Society at the House of Commons. Having been entertained by Boris Johnson’s ultimately shallow speech, it was Patrick Minford who provoked the most thought: Minford proved theoretically that taxation in the economy can be cut by £50 billion. Having worked in my dad’s betting shop for four years, I thoroughly endorse his argument that betting tax is both unfair, uneconomical; and could easily be abolished!

I was fortunate enough to make contacts at the ASI conference and this led to a week’s work experience in Great Smith Street. There I studied the Chilean Pension system and was particularly interested to learn about Austria Economics. However, these contacts with the ASI have not transformed me into a Government-hating “free-marketeer”, and I hope to accompany broadening theoretical study with further practical experience.

I was able to combine both my financial and mathematical interests when I was appointed financial director of our successful Young Enterprise company: R7 Enterprises. This brought me valuable experience in managing a budget and in dealing with unexpected problems within a company. My experience with Maths throughout school has been both enjoyable and challenging; I have attained four gold awards in the Maths Challenge. A varied selection of maths modules combined with a growing understanding of physics has added new dimensions to my problem-solving skills and numerical techniques.

Rugby and an active social life have been carefully balanced with academic studies throughout school. I have captained my school rugby team and also the junior sections of West Hartlepool RFC. In addition I have played representative rugby for Durham County, the North of England and for the last two seasons have been in the ESRFU’s Club England. Rugby has made me acutely aware of the importance of team spirit and positive management. The Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award has given me the opportunity to take on many challenges; the practice and assessed expeditions frequently placing me in demanding situations and allowing me to deal with unusual predicaments and work with a wide variety of people.

My position as Vice-Captain of school has allowed me to have a greater input within the school and to work regularly with the school’s senior management team. I have particularly enjoyed working with adults, and am now eager to embark upon a period of intensive study in the field of Economics.