



Examples of university outreach programmes

The Royal Economic Society has agreed new funding to support economics departments in putting on outreach events for school students. A few economics departments around the country already run their own successful outreach events, which may provide you with some inspiration for how to get your own event up and running.

Women in Economics at the University of Cambridge

The annual Women in Economics day is held at the University of Cambridge and run by Dr Victoria Bateman. Around 100 women in further education are invited to the event from across the UK. They are not required to be studying economics at the time, but they do need to be studying maths. The event has been running since 2015 and usually has a theme. Each year tends to include the following panels:

1. A panel with a senior female policymaker or notable politician. Past guests have included Kate Barker and Yvette Cooper. The idea is for this to be the more "real world"/"practical" panel - to see how academic thinking feeds into politics and policy.
2. A panel of early career professional economists (e.g. from think tanks/institutes/policy world) and/or academics. Organisations represented have included the IFS and the Bank of England in the past.
3. A panel of current female economics students and/or very recent economics graduates.

For more information, please contact [Dr Victoria Bateman](#).

Annual Festival of Economics, Bristol

Bristol's Annual Festival of Economics engages members of the public in economics through a series of panel discussions and talks and is organised by Professor Diane Coyle.

The economics department of Bristol University has organised a schools event as part of the festival for the last four years, challenging teams of students studying A level economics to solve a real -life problem –such as encouraging healthy eating in schools and tackling congestion – using standard and non - standard economic tools.

The 2018 event comprised of:

- An [auction market game](#) in which teams (“restaurants”) bid for the raw materials required to make different menus.
- A ‘**meet the economist**’ **Q&A/networking session**, where students hear from a panel of economists from finance, civil service, think tanks and journalism.
- A Festival of Economics **panel discussion** on “Statistics, Lies and Truth in the Post-Face world”, with panel members from multiple institutions.
- The **schools challenge** where students had just over an hour to consider the challenges and opportunities generated by the “rise of the robots” and the implications for government policy. Each team had to produce a single -page poster with their ideas which was judged.

Further resources

Many activities that could suit an outreach event can be found online:

The Economics Network Ideas Bank page contains a number of teaching resources and plans for a range of economics-related games and activities - <https://www.economicsnetwork.ac.uk/showcase/>

Why Study Economics offers some general advice to students looking to study economics at either Further or Higher Education, which could be incorporated into a diversity event. The website also has a resource pack designed for teachers and parents - <http://whystudyeconomics.ac.uk/>