<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sport/football/53042684>

Above is an article about Marcus Rashford and his efforts to provide children with free school meal vouchers over the summer holidays.

This links in to one of the big topics you will do – Poverty. ***What is your current understanding of Poverty? Based on what you know now, write a short couple of sentences about what it is and what are the causes.***

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| --- |
| ***My current understanding of poverty is…*** |
|  |

There are two types of Poverty, absolute and relative. Use the video to help define these terms. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=__pjfn1gf1g>

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| What is absolute Poverty? | What is relative Poverty? |
|  |  |

There are also some interesting articles/videos on the topic - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/topics/c347895qxj8t/poverty>

Currently, we will only concern ourselves with the UK, but in Y13, we will look at developing Economies and their struggles to develop themselves.

**Poverty – who is responsible?**

Poverty is an interesting topic as different people have different views on who is responsible for being in poverty, who is responsible for getting out of it etc. You will find you develop your own point of view on such issues as we progress through the course, but it is always useful to **read and research a point of view that differs to yours.**

**It is very easy to only read newspapers/articles etc that support your point of view, however, a good economist will look at all angles and try to come to a reasoned and most importantly WELL INFORMED point of view. Remember, just because something is popular, doesn’t mean it’s right.**

Below I have added some different opinions on the topic.

**Please note that these are merely to create discussion and thought and in NO WAY do they reflect my own opinion on this topic.**

“The Government shouldn’t be responsible for paying for peoples meals and houses etc, people should work and support themselves.”

“In 21st century Britain, Poverty should not exist, and the fact it does is a huge failing of Government.”

“The best way out of poverty is to reduce welfare payments (unemployment benefits) this way it encourages people to get a job and support themselves.”

“The government should raise welfare payments, this way people can get the job that they want to do, rather than be forced to work out of necessity”

“People who cannot afford to look after their child shouldn’t have children – it’s irresponsible to rely on someone else”

“It is the Government’s job to ensure that every child has food on the table and does not go hungry.”

“We should just tax the richest people more, they can afford it.”

“It isn’t fair to increase the tax for those people who already contribute the most, it is not their job to provide for everybody else”

**Obviously, there are a few different viewpoints there. In the video below, there are some policies that could be introduced to alleviate Poverty. I would like you to select which on you think is BEST and which one you think is WORST and justify your answer.**

[**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m\_Jwn2H801I**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m_Jwn2H801I)

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| --- | --- |
| **Best Policy:** | **Because:** |
| **Worst Policy:** | **Because:** |