

Extended Project Qualification



OVERVIEW OF COURSE

EPQ is an independent research project and involves you either writing an extended essay of about 5,000 words or creating a product with an accompanying shorter essay of about 1,000 words.

Both options require students to present to peers and assessors for about 10–15 minutes at the end of their EPQ journey about the final product and how they have managed the project as a whole which is demonstrated in a logbook completed online.

Students can complete an EPQ on any topic providing it does not overlap with the content of their A level studies receiving ongoing discussion and guidance throughout, but it remains your project, your decisions and critically; your responsibility.

There is no exam, the project is assessed as a whole, and usually submitted in April of Year 12. Successful students' grades will therefore contribute to UCAS or other applications in Year 13. With an EPQ you are able to achieve an A* grade, unlike with an AS level, so it can be worth up to 28 UCAS points.

Assessment Objectives

Weighting

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| A01 Manage | 20% |
| A02 Use Resources | 20% |
| A03 Develop and Realise | 40% |
| A04 Review | 20% |

Career Paths

EPQ will suit students who have a love of learning new things and discussing ideas and concepts in a highly creative and analytical way. It can be taken as an extension course alongside any subject areas, as the choice of topic is completely individual depending on student interest. A product could be anything from a drone to an app to a music composition. Recent essay themes have ranged from Artificial Intelligence to treatment of eating disorders, and from Star Wars to Pirates. A commitment to independent working is crucial in order to achieve a successful grade.

- It allows you to move beyond the scope of what you are taught in A Level subject curriculum becoming more critical, reflective and independent in your approach to learning as you develop and apply decision-making and problem-solving skills. It strengthens planning, research, analysis, synthesis, evaluation and presentation skills.

- Universities love the EPQ. It shows you can undertake independent research, which is necessary for all students at university and helps to bridge the gap between Sixth Form and degree-level study.

Moreover, it shows passion and self-discipline. Many universities even lower their typical offer if you achieve a particular grade in your EPQ.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

GCSE Grade 9-5 in English

Preferable: Grade 9-6 in English