

EPQ

Extended Project Qualification





EPQ: What is it?

- An independent research project
- Topic of project is entirely your choice
- Accredited by Edexcel



EPQ: Why do it?

- Develops new skills – researching, analysing, problem solving, critical thinking and communication.
- Supports you with the transition to higher education or into the world of work.
- Gain more UCAS points



EPQ: Why do it?

Grade	UCAS points	Equivalence
A*	28	
A	24	0.5 GCE A level at grade A
B	20	0.5 GCE A level at grade B
C	16	0.5 GCE A level at grade C
D	12	0.5 GCE A level at grade D
E	8	0.5 GCE A level at grade E



EPQ: Your project

- Choose and design of an extended piece of work;
- Develop and apply decision-making skills, problem-solving skills, initiative and enterprise;
- Extend your planning, research, critical-thinking, analytical, synthesis, evaluation and presentation skills;
- Use your learning experiences to support your personal aspirations for higher education and career development



EPQ: Type of project

Dissertation:

A university-style dissertation on any topic which can be researched and argued about; for example, a controversial biological, historical, ethical, philosophical, psychological, economic or environmental issue.

Assessment: A dissertation of 5000-6000 words in length, an evaluation and a final presentation.



EPQ: Type of project

Investigation/Field Study:

A scientific investigative project involving the collection of data from primary research, which may happen within the context of a geographical or biological field study - for example, a study of erosion, a study of pollution or a statistical survey of attitudes concerning a social issue.

Assessment: The write-up of the investigation/field-study (4000-5000 words), an evaluation and presentation.



EPQ: Type of project

You could also:

Create an artefact – which includes writing a design brief and developing a physical artefact.

Create a performance – which also includes a written element and can be song/dance or other!

If you're interested in either of these, we can provide you with more details – please let us know.



EPQ: Previous projects

Do violent computer games contribute to anti-social behaviour?

Should anyone be allowed to become a foster parent?

What are the ethical issues in trade relations between the West and China?

Do government health campaigns affect levels of binge drinking?

Do teaching assistants have a beneficial effect on the attainment of learners in the primary and secondary sectors?

Should abortion be free on the NHS?



EPQ: University links

University of Bristol

“Some admissions tutors may make two alternative offers, one of which involves success in the Extended Project (for example, either AAA at A level or AAB at A level plus Extended Project).”

University of Cambridge

“We welcome the introduction of the Extended Project and would encourage you to undertake one as it will help you develop independent study and research skills and ease the transition from school/college to higher education.”



EPQ: University links

University of Manchester

“The skills students develop through the Extended Project are excellent preparation for university-level study. Students can refer to the Extended Project in UCAS personal statements and at interview to demonstrate some of the qualities that universities are looking for.”

University of Warwick

“Applicants presenting the Extended Project are encouraged to discuss their research in their personal statement and reflect on how undertaking the project will help prepare them for studying their chosen degree at Warwick.”



EPQ: is it for you?

When you're deciding whether to do the EPQ consider:

- How will it impact on my other subjects?
- Am I committed enough to see it through to the end?



EPQ: Support in school

- Regular timetabled EPQ sessions
- One to one tutorials/mentoring
- Drop in sessions



EPQ: Useful links

About the qualification:

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-project-qualification/level-3.coursematerials.html#filterQuery=Pearson-UK:Category%2FTeaching-and-learning-materials>

Links to Subjects:

<http://www.edexcel.com/quals/project/links/Pages/default.aspx>

Links to Exemplar Work:

<http://www.edexcel.com/quals/project/level3/Pages/default.aspx>



EPQ: What next?

If you have any questions about the EPQ, please see Mrs Elsley or Miss Holdsworth. More information is on the handout.

Have a think about whether this is something you can commit to and consider the impact on your other subjects/activities outside school.



EPQ: What next?

You will be handing in your projects in March next year.

To prepare for lessons after October half term, we will expect you to:

- Complete a free online course to start developing your study skills
- Complete an activity log for all your work relating to the EPQ

You will only be allowed to continue with the EPQ if you can commit to these things in the first instance.



EPQ: Questions?

If you have any questions about the EPQ, please see/contact Mrs Elsley or any member of the sixth form team.