



EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION

The Consortium Sixth Form College strives for enrichment opportunities for all our students beyond the boundaries of the A-level syllabus. The EPQ Level 3 course is a standalone A-level qualification worth half the UCAS points (28 points). The foundations of the course are directed at developing student's skills and attributes in preparation for university and future careers. The qualification is accredited and recognised by universities and employers. Many universities make lower A-level offers to students undertaking an EPQ. The course is delivered through a dedicated supervisor as an additional timetabled hour a week. There is an expectation for students to allocate independent time to the completion of the project.

WHAT IS IT?

The EPQ is an independent project that students will take complete ownership of. The students will be facilitated by committed supervisors. The students will complete a range of tasks including planning and researching a chosen topic or idea. Students will then use this research to produce a written report and, in the case of practical projects, an artefact or a production. The chosen topic must not be covered by other studied qualifications. The topic can be an extension of a theme or a completely new idea. Students can choose a topic that is a personal inspiration, a passion or an unrelated study. The students will document the design, progress and decision-making throughout the completion of the project. The students will be responsible for quality assuring their work to ensure the best possible outcomes. The students are expected to complete a short summative presentation that share the overall project evaluations and conclusions.

PROJECT STAGES

Stage 1 - Choose an area of interest

Stage 2 - Draft a title and aims of the project for formal approval by the centre

Stage 3 - Plan, research and carry out the project

Stage 4 - Deliver a presentation to a non-specialist audience

Stage 5 - Provide evidence of all stages of project development and production

WHAT SKILLS ARE GAINED?

The students will become more critical, reflective and independent learners. They will develop and apply decision-making and problem-solving skills. Vital skills are gained in planning, research, analysis, synthesis, evaluation and presentation skills. Students will develop confidence in utilising new technologies. EPQ allows student to be creative, display initiative and enterprise.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS

Undertaking an EPQ can benefit students in several ways, such as:

- improved A Level performance for students taking EPQ
- increased motivation by allowing them to study topics of personal interest
- Application of new skills to other areas of study.