

## EPQ

# Extended Project Qualification

**Extended Project Qualification (Level 3) is an additional studies option to the core subject blocks. It is designed to offer the opportunity to develop valuable level 3 academic skills.**

### What is EPQ?

**The Extended Project (EPQ) aims to extend, develop and improve a student's own learning and performance as a critical, reflective and independent learner.**

Projects will be **based on a topic chosen by the students** and agreed as appropriate by their supervisor and approved by the EPQ coordinator.

EPQ provides an opportunity for students to **develop a wide range of academic and personal level 3 skills that are transferable to higher education** and alongside most career progression routes.

A qualification that can positively impact on the quality and content of University personal statements whilst gaining **up to 28 additional valuable UMS points** which can help greatly towards UCAS applications.

### The AIMS of the course...

Delivery of the EPQ will involve some teaching of the necessary skills, supervision and assessment of the student's progress. It will involve extended independent work by the student.

It requires a total of 120 guided learning hours. 30 hours will cover the taught elements of the course and involve attending a 1 hour lesson each week with their class supervisor.

**To develop vital level 3 skills such as decision-making, problem-solving, confidence in applying new technologies, planning, research, critical thinking, analysis, synthesis, evaluation and presentation skills. Students are encouraged to develop and apply skills creatively, demonstrating initiative and enterprise.**

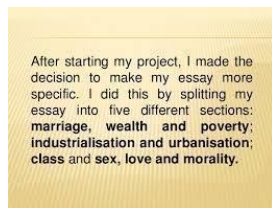
### What's involved?

**The course will run from September until April (8 months)** to ensure students can focus on end of year exams and assessments.

Learners are required to:

- choose an area of interest
- draft a title and aims of the project for formal approval
- plan, research and carry out the project (this can be either an academic written report (5,000 words) or artefact with reflective, referenced written account (1,000 words))
- deliver a presentation to a specified audience
- provide evidence of all stages of project development and production for assessment.

In special circumstances an extension into Year 13 can be granted where projects, due to their nature, take a little longer to complete.



### **The benefits of completing EPQ...**

It's all about YOU choosing YOUR area of personal study to produce a project that means something to YOU. **A qualification you should ENJOY and you should PERSONALLY BENEFIT from.**

**Skills developed** during the course such as research, academic referencing, time and project management **can be transferred** into other academic subjects and improve motivation and academic attainment.

**Students** can use their choice of project to really make **them 'stand out from the crowd'** when looking at progression planning.

- Universities look favourably upon EPQ and understand the self-discipline and independent academic skills that are vital for success at university level study.
- Potential employers and apprenticeship placements are keen to see that students have developed their knowledge and skills in areas of interest that link to future career plans.

**If you have any further questions please contact:**

**Miss K Flint (EPQ Coordinator)**

Kflint@whickhamschool.org