



## Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) - Course Information

### Exam board - AQA

#### What is EPQ?

EPQ stands for Extended Project Qualification. It is an independent research project, consisting of creating an artefact or writing a 5000 word report on an issue of your choosing (subject to approval by ethics committee). It is worth half an A level.

#### What does the course involve?

- Submitting either an artefact with written report of 1500 words OR
- Submitting a 5000 word essay

**Entry Requirements:** In Sixth Form, you can undertake an EPQ, provided that you are successfully managing your core A levels. This is an additional qualification alongside your A levels; it does not replace any of them.

#### What themes are studied and how is it assessed?

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Students will undertake:

- Initial planning meeting with supervisor
- Submission of research topic and outline plan
- Mid project review with supervisor
- End of project review with supervisor
- Submission of research project and/or artefact
- Presentation of research project and/or artefact

##### How is it assessed?

Assessment is through an **EPQ logbook** and the **final report/artefact**. It is marked out of 50.

AO1: Manage (10 marks)
AO2: Use resources (10 marks)
AO3: Develop (20 marks)
AO4: Realise (10 marks)

#### What are lessons like?

Lessons are carried out in small groups, and involve some presentation of skills based teaching, and some time to apply this to your own project. These lessons consist of skills such as ethics, mindmapping ideas, creating a good question, how to research, using sources, how to reference, and being reflective and critical. In addition to the lessons, students will be need to use their own time to work on their projects - AQA estimates that this qualification is the result of approximately 120 hours study (minimum) of which 30 are classroom based.

#### Where can the EPQ take you?

EPQ is an excellent way of strengthening your UCAS application for university. It teaches skills that universities want to see in prospective students and can sometimes even lead to lower grade or points based offers from certain universities. Students who have undertaken an EPQ often report back that they have found the transition to university a lot smoother due to having already mastered some of the skills required for higher level academic study.

**For more information about the course, please see Ms Briden**