

GUIDE TO THE EPO



AUTUMN 2022

ABOUT THE EPQ

WHAT IS THE EPQ?

Students can earn up to half an A level (28 UCAS points) in which students carry out an independent project that is then assessed.

The EPQ is different from any other A level in that it is entirely lead by the students themselves. Students get to plan and carry out research on a topic they've chosen and isn't covered by their other A levels. In this way, it involves extended autonomous work by the student, requiring in total 120 guided learning hours. In short, students are required to:

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WHY SHOULD AN EPQ BE CONSIDERED?

The EPQ has become more and more popular with A level students over the past decade. While A levels are part of a well-established route to university education, the EPQ is designed to extend and develop students' abilities beyond the A level syllabus and offer students an opportunity to develop unique and complementary skills, for example, in planning and undertaking a piece of independent work. As such, 763()-251.994(s)-3.98.243 - 99381C n

WHY DO STUDENTS LIKE IT?

Students like the EPQ because it offers them an opportunity to work on

STRUCTURE OF THE EPQ

TYPES OF EPQ

There are two basic types of project that a student can choose to do:

- 1) Extended report (5000 words)
- 2) Artefact (+1000 word report)

The best projects are those that demonstrate the student has been able to analyse and evaluate evidence gathered in their research. The student must then bring all their

they are seeking to answer through their EPQ. Projects where there is simply a title such

EPQ TOPICS

As mentioned above, students can choose any topic which interests them and can develop and

ASSESSMENT OF THE EPQ

HOW IS THE EPQ ASSESSED?

The EPQ is an internally assessed qualification. Students will need to produce the following 4 deliverables as part of the assessment:

- 1) A production log documenting their journey
- 2) The written report or artefact (with shorter report)
- 3) ○

WHAT DOES THE TAUGHT ELEMENT CONSIST OF?

The EPQ requires teaching of the necessary skills for both the EPQ and for other areas of academic study. The taught element of the programme is considered extremely valuable because it will support students in developing their ability to move beyond the expectations of students at GCSE and towards the skills and attributes expected of those beginning university or in the workplace. It is expected that at least 30 guided learning hours of the overall 120 hours will be spent on this taught element.

Skills taught as part of the EPQ include:

Critical thinking skills – developing the ability to analyse and evaluate sources of information

Research skills including the ability to search for and identify

IS IT FOR ME?

WHAT SKILLS DO I NEED TO COMPLETE A SUCCESSFUL EPQ?

An EPQ is the longest and most extensive project that you will do during your school years, so it stretches your normal skills. The EPQ requires:

Interest and curiosity in a subject are the fuel of motivation to keep you going deeper to answer a research question. You are going to be not going to get bored of.

Planning the project over a three-term period and making sure that

