

What is an EPQ

EPQ is short for Extended Project Qualification. An EPQ is an independent research project which involves writing an essay of 5000 words, or creating a product. This could be anything from an art object to a mobile app. As the project progresses, you must complete a production log to record the stages of the project and this contributes to your project result. The final component of the project is an oral presentation.

An EPQ usually takes approximately 120 hours to finish. The process will begin in Year 12 with a timetabled 1 hour per week with your Project Supervisor. You receive teaching and guidance, help with planning, researching and presentation skills. They will also keep you on track as you work through your chosen project. You have the choice of what your project is on, but the final title will need the approval of your supervisor and the centre co-ordinator.

The Benefits

The Extended Project Qualification teaches you some key high-level skills to help you develop as a student and prepare for higher education.

The EPQ can help you with UCAS points as it is valued at 50% of a full A level in the UCAS tariff.

EPQ provides very clear evidence that you are capable of undertaking the kind of independent reading, research, and essay writing that is the mainstay of most undergraduate degrees.

This is hugely important in the UCAS application process where universities often have little to distinguish between students with similar predicted grades.

The EPQ also offers an experience that you can reflect upon in your personal statement when filling in your UCAS application.

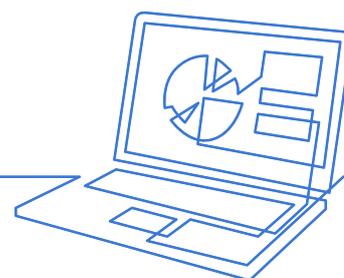
Skills required

- A great interest in the research topic: interest and curiosity in a subject are the fuel of motivation to keep you going deeper in order to answer a research question.
- Organisational skills: planning the project and making sure that each stage is completed in time, meeting internally set deadlines is essential to creating a high-quality end-product and attracting the highest assessment marks in the process.
- Good time-management skills because it is not part of the normal school curriculum. Making sure you spend enough time on the project each week, while juggling the demands of your A-Levels, is key to a successful project.

To decide if EPQ is right for you needs good advice from teachers who know you well. If you are a high achieving student, you should enjoy and cope well with EPQ and it could make all the difference getting you into a top university. If your academic potential is more modest you may well benefit from EPQ, but it could also make demands on you which affect your main A level work.

Entry Requirements

To study the EPQ at WBHS students will need to attain at least a 6,6 in English language and literature. Students will need to be able to manage their time effectively in order to carry out a large amount of research and write an extended piece of work. We recommend that students who feel that they cannot fully commit to the EPQ focus their time on their A level studies.



Find Out More

If you have any questions about the EPQ, contact Phoebe Dickinson (EPQ Co-ordinator), email: phoebe.dickinson@whitleybayhighschool.org

