

Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)



Overview

Students who are intending to get places at the top universities or on the most competitive courses are encouraged to do the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) as an additional qualification.

The qualification is research-based and so gives students the opportunity to study, in-depth, an area of specific interest to them. It also means that they have an individual area of interest that they can talk about at interview, which in turn, helps differentiate them from other students.

Progression

Most students who sign up to the EPQ do so to improve their chances of getting into the best universities or onto the most competitive courses. It gives students the opportunity to develop all sorts of skills – most obviously their research and presentations skills, since students are required to make a presentation on their research. These skills are essential for most university courses, and are of interest to many employers.

Course Content

Students doing the EPQ have the opportunity to explore an area of specific interest to them, that may be only loosely connected to their A Level subjects. The only requirement is that they select an area that they are passionate about, as the qualification requires working independently, in much the same way as would be expected at university.

The EPQ can take the form of a dissertation, field study or artefact and so is relevant to students with a range of different interests.

Typically, most students taking the EPQ, achieve an A* or A.

Educational Experiences

Students have the opportunity to take part in research workshops with leading universities.

Assessment

The exam board for the Extended Project Qualification is Pearson Edexcel.

Entry Requirements

Students with GCSE grades that qualify for Aspire (typically an average of 6.2 and above) are offered the opportunity to complete an EPQ.

