

Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

THE PARK ACADEMIES TRUST

SIXTH FORM

*Don't be anonymous...
...be remarkable*

The Extended Project Qualification is an academic qualification that is valued by universities. It is especially relevant to those aiming for Russell Group universities or Oxbridge, as it is one way of making your application stand out as well as gaining additional UCAS points. An EPQ is worth 60% of an A level. The EPQ gives you the opportunity to explore a topic of personal interest in greater depth and gain an additional qualification, graded A*-E. You will choose your title and aims before going on to plan, research and carry out your project. Your project could be a written report or an artefact you've made. If linked to a potential university course, an EPQ can give you an 'edge' in your UCAS application / interview. Some universities will decrease their grade requirements in light of a successful EPQ.

Student Profile

A successful student will need:

To be self-motivated and organised, as the majority of the course is spent on an individual project.

Candidates will also need to be open to advice and guidance and be able to work without direct supervision.

The project will be completed in Year 12.

Pupils need to be prepared to use their own time to complete the project.

Course Content (AQA)

The course comprises: taught sessions with Mrs Barrett, research trips to universities, independent work on your project and regular meetings with your supervisor (a member of staff who gives you one-to-one guidance). The evidence for assessment will comprise:

- Your completed production log
- Your presentation at the EPQ presentation evening
- Your completed product: either a 5000 word written report or an artefact (such as piece of music/art /film) with a 2000 word report

Skills Gained

- Develops research, analytical and written and presentation skills
- Improves time management, organisation and independence
- Facilitates monitoring and reflection of academic work

The completion of an EPQ will enhance your personal statement and will give you extra UCAS points when applying to university.

The Future - What Next?

An EPQ qualification gives clear evidence that a student has developed the skills to research, organise and complete a project with a high degree of independence. As such, it is highly valued by universities. It is also worth more than an AS level in terms of UCAS points (60% of an A level). If chosen well, the subject matter of the project can directly support an application for a linked undergraduate course. It also provides an opportunity for pupils to study a subject of personal interest or that is not covered by their A level choices.



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