

# Extended Project Qualification

**EPQ Co-ordinator: Mrs M Cowie**

What is an Extended Project?

An EPQ is a totally independent piece of work undertaken by a student on any subject of their choice. The qualification should take 90 hours to complete, plus up to 30 hours of “taught skills” in school. Students allocate their own time and motivate themselves to complete the project but taught skills sessions are held during school hours. The final product can be in the form of a 5,000 word essay, artefact, performance or group project. Students also submit a Log of their activities and reflections and give a presentation at which they must answer questions from the audience. Students are supported by a Supervisor but all decisions are taken by the students themselves.

Why choose to do an Extended Project?

EPQ is an additional qualification starting in June of Year 12 and ending in April of Year 13.

- For the love of learning and the intellectual and organisational challenge.
- It may improve a UCAS application in a subject not studied at school or in a highly competitive course.
- It is worth half an A level (up to 28 UCAS points).
- Universities value EPQ and are beginning to make alternative lower offers for those students with an EPQ in progress.

Who is eligible?

Any Year 12 student with good organisation and time management skills, who wants to do an EPQ and has a feasible idea.

All candidates are required to meet the following Assessment Objectives.

The Assessment Objectives are weighted as indicated:

## Manage (10 marks)

Identify, design, plan, and carry out a project, applying a range of skills, strategies and methods to achieve objectives.

## Use Resources (10 marks)

Research, critically select, organise and use information, and select and use a range of resources. Analyse data apply relevantly and demonstrate understanding of any links, connections and complexities of the topic.

## Develop and Realise (20 marks)

Select and use a range of skills, including, where appropriate, new technologies and problem-solving, to take decisions critically and achieve planned outcomes.

## Review (10 marks)

Evaluate all aspects of the extended project, including outcomes in relation to stated objectives and own learning and performance. Select and use a range of communication skills and media to present evidenced project outcomes and conclusions in an appropriate format.

## STUDENT VIEW

## EPQ



**EPQ title: 'Evaluate how oral drugs, deep brain stimulation and neural transplantation are used to relieve the symptoms of Parkinson's disease'.** I had always wanted to carry out an EPQ as I always loved the idea of independently researching an area of choice. My project allowed me to discover more about the field in which I hope to work in the future (as I hope to study Medicine). The EPQ requires a lot of dedication and good time-management but it was worth every minute to be able to create a final product that I am very proud of.

Rachel Ruck