



HECKMONDWIKE
GRAMMAR SIXTH FORM

Extended Project Qualification

Exam Board: OCR

The teaching is led by the EPQ coordinator and additional department staff. Some lessons are delivered by individual staff and others use team teaching so that we can make best use of academic specialisms. Students have regular meetings with their teaching supervisor who will guide them through their journey in creating an independent research project.



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Extended Project Qualification

Career Opportunities

The Extended Project Qualification is a research based project qualification. It is a level 3 qualification and is equal to half an A level. Students carry out independent research in order to produce a 5000 word report or create an artefact such as a computer programme, musical composition or experiment.

Why opt for the EPQ

- Enhanced university application.
- Many universities will make reduced grade offers to students who have successfully completed the EPQ.
- The EPQ is worth UCAS points.
- Development of skills needed for higher education.
- Higher level study skills that can be transferred to other A level subjects.

Selection

The EPQ is an addition to the A level provision at year 12. It is an optional extra and there are a limited number of places. Students apply for a place on the programme through a formal application process and places are awarded based on enthusiasm, work ethic and demonstration of study skills.

Course Content

YEAR 12

Fast Track Course

We run a fast track course that begins in June of year 11 and completes at Christmas of year 12. Students are expected to complete an online induction and study skills sessions during June and July. They will have regular contact with a supervisor who will help them formulate their ideas in order for them to work on their project over the summer, carrying out research and creating an essay or artefact plan ready to work on during the lessons in September.

Standard Course

This starts in September of year 12 and completes at Easter. Students wishing to do the standard course must complete the bridging work supplied over the Summer holidays as this forms the foundation of the course.

Lessons are used to explore potential themes for the project and go beyond the A level curriculum. The format of the lessons is varied and includes lecture, seminar and workshop style sessions. Students are

expected to participate in a variety of activities including debates and presentations.

We work closely with the University of Leeds and students get the opportunity to attend a study day where they can access the university library and online resources.

Prior to handing in their project students present their findings to their supervisor and peers.

Assessment

Students are assessed in the following areas:

- Managing a research project
- Use of resources
- Developing an idea
- Reviewing the process

The completed project portfolio should include:

- A research based report or production of an artefact.
- The recording of progress and decision making in a production log.
- Evidence of research and source analysis.
- Presenting the project findings to an audience of staff and peers.