

QUEEN ELIZABETH'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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25th November 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians

Year 12 EPQ

We are writing to outline the first deadlines in relation to the EPQ course, as progress in this subject relies on commitment to these milestones. The EPQ is a research based independent project, based on the use of skills taught in lessons. Much of the time will be spent by students working independently and this requires self-discipline and dedication to the chosen project. We have large numbers of students who complete projects on all sorts of different topics each year to a very good standard. Results are graded on a par with A Levels and gain points at half the A Level tariff and these points can be useful for university entrance. The personal interest and achievement gained are valued by students, universities and employers, although our students acknowledge that the independence can be challenging along the way.

We are currently at the stage where we have taught many of the skills required and students are researching and refining their ideas. Our first deadline is 30th November when students will complete the first section of the Production Log with their initial chosen project idea and working plan. They will then complete the official submission for approval of their project idea by the end of January (after exams). Failure to meet these deadlines will result in a discussion about whether this qualification is actually the best route for the student. Some students may genuinely feel that the EPQ is not for them and they are welcome to discuss this with their teacher now if they feel this is the case. If it is agreed that they can drop it, then they will be timetabled to spend the same 4 hours a fortnight in the lessons as they are jointly titled 'Supervised Study'. They carry out their own focussed work on their other studies.

We hope this information is helpful and if you have any questions, please contact me on:
morgan@queenelizabeths.derbyshire.sch.uk

Yours sincerely

Kate Morgan
EPQ Centre Coordinator