

QUEEN ELIZABETH'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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30th March 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

Year 12 EPQ

We are writing to outline the progress of the EPQ course, as this relies on commitment to certain milestones. The EPQ is an 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 fascinating different topics each year to a high standard, so the hard work is worth it! Results are graded A* to E like A levels and are worth half the A level points tariff - which is very useful for many university offers. Students value the new subject knowledge, skills and achievement and so do universities and employers. Our students are honest enough to acknowledge that the independence can be challenging along the way - but that they learn so much from it!

We are currently at the stage where we have taught many of the skills required and students have established their project idea which they are now researching independently. All students should have completed Part A Candidate Proposal and ideally Planning Review in their Production log book by the Easter holiday. After that, students who are making good progress need to complete Mid Project Review by Friday 20th May and to have completed a written draft by the end of this school year. Some exceptionally organised students may be able to finish their project completely by the end of July, including the required presentation. We do not set 'homework' but students do need to spend more time outside the classroom on their project as the process goes forward (especially during the intense writing process) and this is something that parents can be usefully aware of.

There are two submission points in the year – November and May. Those students who do manage to write their essay (or complete all their artefact preparation) in Year 12, may be able to make the November deadline which has an internal school deadline of 4th October. The rest will be expected to complete their project by Christmas in order to gain revision time from January 2023 onwards for their important main subjects including the January mock exams.

Some students may genuinely feel that they cannot manage the EPQ if their main subjects are challenging and time consuming. If so, they need to speak to their EPQ supervisor and decide whether it is in their best interests to free up more study time by dropping EPQ. If that is agreed, then they will be timetabled to spend the same 4 hours a fortnight in the lessons (jointly titled 'EPQ/Supervised Study') to carry out their other work at these times.

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

Yours faithfully

Claire Tresidder
EPQ Centre Coordinator

Lu Reynolds
EPQ Tutor and Supervisor