



Extended Project Qualification (Level 3)

Why you should follow this course?

The Extended Project gives you considerable opportunity to follow your own interests and produce something that will support whatever you want to do in the future. This can be especially useful if you want to do something that isn't directly related to your subject choices either at University or as a job.

Universities are often impressed by work done for the Extended Project as it shows commitment to the subject and an extension beyond your lesson content. However, universities vary in whether they will accept UCAS points from the Project, and you should check in advance if you think this will be essential for you.

What teaching and learning methods will be used?

The course relies on you being able to work independently. You will be given individual tutorial support to make sure you are recording what you do effectively and sometimes give you help in locating sources, but you have to be able to research information and skills yourself. You may well be studying something that your teacher knows very little about, so it is up to you to find out what you need to know.

How will the course be assessed?

The course is one coursework unit with no exam. The final outcome is about 45% of the marks. The majority of the marks are for the work you do to plan, develop and present your project, so it is essential that you keep up-to-date throughout the year.

Other important information

The specification puts no limit on what you can study, perform or make, but there will be limits on what you can practically do based on the facilities we have in school.

You cannot do something you are doing for another subject, so you can't write a dissertation on your A-Level set text or hand in your Art coursework. You also can't hand in something you have already made at home. You can extend skills you have developed in other subjects, so you could do a research project to test theory you have been taught in your subject, or set about extending practical skills in clearly defined ways. You can also do something based on another subject, like make a historical documentary film, and you can do something that is completely unrelated to any subject you are studying.

Examination Board: Edexcel

Qualification: Level 3 Extended Project

The qualification is the equivalent of half an A Level (slightly more than an AS Level) and is awarded with grades from A-E.*

COURSE CONTENT

There are four units – you will only do ONE of them

1. **Dissertation.** You research and write an extended essay (5000-6000 words). There is no restriction on the topic or the angle you take in your essay, but it does need to be something where you can argue a case and explore different sides and it will need to be thoroughly researched.
2. **Investigation.** You design and carry out a research project. This will involve your own primary research presented and analysed in 4000-5000 words.
3. **Performance.** You research, plan and deliver a performance. There is no particular restriction on the nature of the performance, but you have to research different material you could perform and cover the logistics of presenting the performance (publicity, tickets, staging etc.)
4. **Artefact.** You have to do research and make something. This could be something physical, like an artwork, or it could be something digital, like a film.

What can you do when you have your qualification?

The Extended Project isn't a specific subject, so you can plan what you want to do with it. If you want to strengthen a portfolio for a creative subject, the Project will help you get the university place you want. If you want to show your commitment to a subject, your dissertation or investigation will help in the same way. If you are planning to apply for a vocational course or look for a job in a particular field, your project will extend your knowledge and allow you to stand out to employers and admissions tutors. In short, you can use the Project to help you do whatever you want to do.

For further information or advice please contact Mrs Gregory.