



# The Extended Project

**The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) is an option available to all students in their second year of A Level studies at Barton Peveril. It allows you to specialise in an area of research that really interests you and to work in a way that mirrors the style of independent learning required by universities.**

You have a completely free choice as to which area you specialise in for your project and could opt for anything from organising an event, creating the interior design for a shop, to an in depth study of The French Resistance in World War II.

**“After studying for my EPQ I feel that I’m more capable of being critical about resources in terms of accuracy and reliability. I now know how to compare the sources with other research and assess the origins and nature of the resource.”**

Rosie Parsonage, formerly Thornden School



Alternatively, you may wish to develop your interests and skills in one of the 24 subject-specific project areas we offer, from Science, Maths and English extension work and a range of Humanities subjects to Art History, Computer Game Design, Starting a Business, Radio Journalism, Short Film Production or Dance.

**“I’m currently studying Strategic Studies at Aberystwyth University and the skills I developed from the EPQ have been absolutely invaluable. Thanks to the research topic I undertook (Modern NATO) I was able to secure a place in the University of Wales Air Squadron – an RAF-affiliated organisation – which will help me no end towards my career aspirations.”**

Jonathan Miller, formerly King’s School, Fair Oak



### What does it involve?

An EPQ is a qualification at A Level standard and is equivalent to half an A Level. It attracts up to 70 UCAS points and the final marks are graded A\* to E. You can choose a topic related to one or more of your A Level courses or a completely different area of interest, written or practical. All projects include a written report and a presentation.

**“I think my Extended Project helped a lot in terms of delivering the high level presentation skills required at my scholarship interview.”**

Matthew Baxman, formerly The Mountbatten School, Romsey, who received an Institution of Civil Engineers special award for exceptional performance following a successful interview for a scholarship from the University of Surrey in partnership with the Institution of Civil Engineers.

You will be supported by a teacher throughout your project, the outcome of which could be:

- an extended written investigation
- a musical or theatrical performance
- a sculpture; piece of creative writing or other artefact
- a report on an experiment
- an electronic item such as a website or film.



**“Qualifications taken in addition to your main exams, such as the Extended Project, will improve your application by enabling you to develop study skills that will be useful in higher education. Although we do not usually make offers based on such qualifications, we encourage applicants to take them and to note them on their application form.”**

University of Birmingham

### Why take it?

The Extended Project gives you the opportunity to research something for yourself and you become an expert in it. Barton Peveril trialled the qualification in 2008 and now enters more candidates than any other sixth form college in the country. We really value its ability to develop skills in independent planning, research and critical analysis – a view shared by Russell Group universities including Southampton, which works closely with our EPQ candidates, and Bristol and Newcastle which consider the EPQ in their offers.

Recent EPQ topics include:

- How was female identity portrayed by the male artist within the Renaissance and Impressionist Movements?
- Why is Sign Language important for mute autistic children?
- Designing a suspension bridge
- To what extent is aspirin a ‘safe’ drug?
- How to design a successful avatar for an action computer game
- To what extent has the Blues influenced contemporary popular music?
- What can we know about the real Robin Hood?
- A study in Photo Realism
- What causes a child to murder? A review of the Jamie Bulger Case

Extended Project options are available in 24 subject-specific areas including:

- Art History
- English extension
- Radio journalism
- Short Film Production
- Creative Writing
- Law
- Science extension
- Start up Business