

20 October 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

Exciting Opportunity: Project Qualification for Year 9 & 10 Students

We are excited to introduce an enriching opportunity for your child's educational journey – the Project Qualification.

Project Qualifications are nationally recognised credentials available at various levels. Our Sixth Form students have successfully completed the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) for a number of years. We are pleased to now offer the Higher Project Qualification (HPQ) and Foundation Project Qualification (FPQ) to our students in Years 9 & 10.

The Project Qualification empowers students to independently delve into topics they are passionate about, exploring their chosen subjects through various avenues, such as dissertations, artefacts, or performances. As these qualifications carry half a GCSE's worth of credit, the projects represent a substantial academic endeavour.

Participating in this qualification equips students with valuable study skills, including independent research, critical thinking and reflective practice. They will learn A Level and university style research techniques, enhancing their analytical, decision-making and problem-solving abilities. Moreover, this course offers students a platform to develop their communication and presentation skills, culminating in a project presentation.

The course is structured around skill-based sessions led by Mrs Faisal and Mrs Mullett, held every Tuesday after school in the Learning Resource Center (LRC) from 3.30pm to 4.30pm. Additionally, students receive support from a Tutor Assessor, typically a staff member with expertise or a particular interest in the student's chosen topic. Before the end of the course, a decision will be made regarding whether your child's project will be entered for the Foundation Project Qualification (FPQ) or the Higher Project Qualification (HPQ).

The Project Qualification course spans approximately three terms, commencing in January 2024, with project submissions scheduled for January 2025. For current Year 10 students, this means that their projects will be completed before they embark on their final revision period for their GCSE examinations in the summer of 2025.

Please note that places on the course are limited and, before your child commits, kindly consider the following:

- 1. Can your child commit to attending the weekly after-school sessions on Tuesdays from 3.30pm to 4.30pm, starting Tuesday 9 January 2024?
- 2. Is your child prepared to work independently on their project during term time (in addition to their regular homework) and during school holidays?



Nemo sibi nascitur: Our values of community, aspiration and opportunity enable every individual to grow and flourish



If your child is eager to undertake the Project Qualification, please ask them to complete the <u>Application Form</u> by **Friday 3 November**. Students will then be invited to meet with Mrs Faisal, Mrs Mullett or Mrs Berks for an informal discussion, where we will outline project expectations and gauge their understanding and interest in pursuing this qualification. Students will be informed if they have been offered a place on the course by Tuesday 12 December 2023.

Should you have any questions or require further information before completing the application form, please do not hesitate to email Mrs Faisal (<u>m.faisal@parmiters.herts.sch.uk</u>).

Kind regards

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Mrs Faisal Project Qualification Lead