20 November 2026

Dear Year 12 Parents and Carers

Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

As part of our Sixth Form Study Programme, Year 12 students have the opportunity to undertake an Extended Project Qualification (EPQ).

The EPQ provides students with the opportunity to independently research and develop a project based on a topic that genuinely interests them and that they would like to explore in greater depth. The final project can take the form of a dissertation, an artefact or a performance.

Throughout the process, students develop a range of valuable skills, including independent research, critical thinking, problem-solving and reflective practice. They learn to take greater responsibility for their own learning, develop university-style research techniques through wider reading and application, and strengthen their communication and presentation skills. The qualification also encourages students to use their initiative, make informed decisions and develop their ideas through an extended piece of work.

The EPQ is equivalent to half an A Level in terms of UCAS points and can be a valuable addition to a student's university application. It provides an opportunity for students to demonstrate their ability to work independently and explore an area of personal interest in considerable depth. It can also provide an excellent talking point in university personal statements and interviews, helping students to demonstrate their enthusiasm for a particular subject and their readiness for further study.

Teaching and Support

At Parmiter's, the EPQ is delivered through a series of skills-based seminars led by myself every two weeks. These sessions are already incorporated into the Year 12 timetable as part of the wider Super Curricular Programme.

Students are also supported by Mrs Faisal, our EPQ Coordinator, who is based in the Sixth Form LRC. She is available to provide guidance on research, referencing and academic writing. In addition, each student is allocated a Tutor Assessor, a member of staff selected by the student, who will provide subject-specific guidance and support throughout the research and development of their project.

Key Deadlines and Milestones

To help you support your child throughout the process, please find below the key deadlines for the EPQ:

- **Friday 8 January 2027 - Project Proposal Deadline:** All Year 12 students, with the exception of those undertaking Core Maths, must complete an EPQ Project Proposal Form. Forms must be signed and submitted by this date.

- **Friday 12 March 2027 - First Milestone Meeting:** All EPQ students must have met with their Tutor Assessor by this date to discuss their initial research and the direction of their project. This meeting is an important opportunity to receive guidance and ensure that students are on track.

- **Wednesday 30 June 2027 - Second Milestone Meeting:** All EPQ students must have a second meeting with their Tutor Assessor by this date to review the progress of their project and discuss any final refinements needed ahead of the summer.

- **Wednesday 22 September 2027 - Final Submission Deadline:** All projects must be completed and submitted to Mrs Faisal in the Sixth Form LRC by this date.

- **Late October 2027 (date to be confirmed) – EPQ Presentations:** Students will deliver a short presentation about their project to their Tutor Assessor and a small group of guests. This will form part of a celebration event recognising the work and achievements of those who have completed the qualification.

Additional meetings with Tutor Assessors, Mr Clark and Mrs Faisal can be arranged throughout the year should students require further guidance or support.

Next Steps
The EPQ is not compulsory and students who decide that it is not the right option for them will have the opportunity to undertake an alternative wider curriculum project, details of which will be discussed with them in due course.

Those who study the additional Core Maths Programme will not be expected to begin the programme, unless there is a specific desire to do so. All other students will begin the process and be given an opportunity to learn core skills before deciding if they wish to pursue the qualification.

However, we strongly encourage students to embrace this opportunity. The EPQ offers a valuable experience beyond the traditional A Level curriculum, allowing students to pursue an area of personal interest whilst developing the independence, curiosity and academic skills that will benefit them in their future studies and beyond.

Further guidance and information can be found on the Parmiter's EPQ website.

If you have any questions or would like any further information, please do not hesitate to get in touch by emailing T.Clark@parmiters.herts.sch.uk.

Kind regards



Mr T Clark
Assistant Headteacher