

# Sixth Form Enrichment Qualifications



## AQA Extended Project Qualification

The EPQ is a supplementary Level 3 enrichment course that allows students to lead their own projects. Students get to plan and carry out research on a topic that they've chosen and isn't covered by their other qualifications. They can take inspiration from something touched on in class or something personal and unrelated to their studies. They then use this research to produce a written report and, in the case of practical projects, an artefact or a production.

By taking responsibility for the choice, design and decision making of an individual project (or an individual role in a group project) students:

- become more critical, reflective and independent learners
- develop and apply decision-making and problem-solving skills
- increase their planning, research, analysis, synthesis, evaluation and presentation skills
- learn to apply technologies confidently
- demonstrate creativity, initiative and enterprise.

### **Taught Skills:**

The EPQ is predominantly an independent qualification, however support is provided via your supervisor, who will also deliver 'taught skills' lessons and tutorials which equip students with the skills needed to complete a successful research project.

- **There are no exams for EPQ, just the submission of the research project with accompanying documents including a production log, written report and / or practical project evidence.**
- Like the Level 3 Mathematical Studies course, this qualification will be completed in Year 12, with the coursework marks submitted to the exam board in November of Year 13, and final confirmation of results received in January of Year 13 each year.

EPQ is recommended for students who intend to go on to study at university, as it promotes degree-level independent skills to help prepare for the transition to Higher Education.

Any student in Sixth Form can take the EPQ as it is usually available in all 5 option blocks. Note that EPQ is not recommended for students choosing a 4-subject pathway, or those who are going to be studying L3 Mathematical Studies.

The EPQ teaching includes 2 lessons per fortnight throughout Year 12 only. Note that this also needs to be supplemented with significant independent study (at least 1-2 hours per week).

The EPQ is worth the equivalent of half an A Level and will contribute towards UCAS tariff points or reduced contextual offers at some universities / for some degree courses.

Typically, 25% of the year group complete EPQ each year, with the results being above-average (locally and nationally).

***More information about EPQ and how to sign up will be available during Sixth Form Induction.***



# Sixth Form Enrichment Qualifications

## AQA Level 3 Mathematical Studies

AQA Level 3 Mathematical Studies is a diverse, engaging and inclusive qualification that aims to equip students with the right quantitative skills to reach their future destination, whatever that may be.

The course content includes 4 compulsory modules, which are complemented with 9 optional modules split into three possible themes.

### **Compulsory Content:**

- 3.1 Analysis of data
- 3.2 Maths for personal finance
- 3.3 Estimation
- 3.4 Critical analysis of given data and models

### **Optional Content (we envisage we will follow the A strand):**

<b>A: Statistical Techniques</b>	<b>B: Critical Path and Risk Analysis</b>	<b>C: Graphical Techniques</b>
3.5 The normal distribution 3.6 Probabilities and estimation 3.7 Correlation and regression	3.8 Critical Path and Risk Analysis 3.9 Expectation 3.10 Cost benefit analysis	3.11 Graphical methods 3.12 Rates of change 3.13 Exponential functions

- Paper 1 is 90 minutes and will assess content from 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3.
- Paper 2 is 90 minutes and will assess 3.4 and one of the three options above (A, B or C) depending on which optional content we decide to deliver (TBC).
- Like the EPQ, this qualification will be completed in one year, with the two external exams being sat in the Summer of Year 12.

L3 Mathematical Studies is recommended and may be pre-allocated (where possible) for those students who are taking one or more of Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Geography or Psychology, but who have **not** chosen to take Mathematics A Level. The quantitative skills required for these courses will be supported and complemented by studying L3 Mathematical Studies as part of your study programme.

Subject to available places, any student not taking A Level Mathematics (whose timetable allows) may also request to take this course, with priority given to those studying other courses with a significant maths element such as Business, Economics or Product Design. Students may not take Level 3 Mathematical Studies **and** Extended Project Qualification.

Taught hours for this course will be up to 6 hours per fortnight. Students taking L3 Mathematical Studies may request to have 3 hours of Silent Study lessons per fortnight instead of the usual 4.

AQA L3 Mathematical Studies is worth the equivalent of half an A Level and will contribute towards UCAS tariff points or reduced contextual offers at some universities / for some degree courses.

**Please note that this course may only be available in limited option blocks, decided in January, and so may not be possible for all students depending on chosen course combinations. Your Sixth Form offer may stipulate that you should study L3 Mathematical Studies as part of your study programme.**