

High Storrs Sixth Form

2024 Bridging Work

Subject: EPQ

Name: _____



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EPQ Bridging Work

EPQ stands for extended project qualification. It is an independent research task and involves you either writing an extended essay of about 5,000 words or creating a product with an accompanying shorter essay of about 1,000 words. This product could be anything from a drone to an app to a music composition. Both options require you to present to your peers and assessors for about 10–15 minutes at the end of your EPQ journey about your final product. You are also expected to reflect and evaluate the process as you go along, completing a logbook, which comprises part of your assessment.

This course will be completed by January of Y13 but does require you to complete a lot of the work during the summer holiday between Y12 & 13.

Should I do EPQ?

Pros

- It allows you to move beyond the scope of what you are taught in the classroom.
- It can be used to provide evidence for a passion you have, which may come in handy in university and job interviews. It also gives you something interesting to talk about.
- It can be an excellent way of showing an interest in a degree subject that is not available at A level.
- You learn how to structure a report properly, including an abstract, appendix and bibliography.
- You get to develop a variety of skills including time management and learning how to reference, as well as improving organisation and planning.
- It can enhance your presentation skills and help to increase your confidence.
- As above, some universities may lower your offer if you get a particular grade in your EPQ.

Cons

- It is very time consuming, so only enrol if you feel as though you would not be overburdening yourself.
- If you do not have a genuine interest in the topic you choose, you may not be able to complete your EPQ to a high quality. It is a bit of a commitment, and a lot of reading needs to take place.
- It may distract you from your other A Level studies.

Bridging work

Please note - as the EPQ course does not begin until later in the year your bridging work will not be collected immediately – instead it will be collected when the course begins which is in Week 6 of the new school year.

As EPQ is about the topic you choose to study and you will need guidance on how to choose your topic in the EPQ lessons you will be given in Y12, there is little purpose in giving EPQ work based around a single topic. Instead your bridging work for EPQ will be based around a key skill that you will need for the course – the ability to evaluate research.

We are aware that you will have a wide range of topic focuses and so wanted to give you a range of tasks to focus on – so you will be given a research task to read two sources on a topic and answer a series of questions.

Your Bridging work then is this;

1. Select which of the Three questions you would prefer to read about
2. Read both sources
3. Complete the Questions for each source (please complete this on a separate document to hand in at the start at next year)
4. Relax and enjoy your summer Hols!

Question 1 – Should courtrooms be publicly accessible in England?

Question 2 – Should GCSE's be abolished?

Question 3 – Should the UK subsidise Electric Cars?

Sources For Question 1)

Source 1 (read until page 12): *THIS ISN'T A REALITY SHOW: HOW SOCIAL MEDIA LIVESTREAMS OF HIGH-PROFILE CRIMINAL TRIALS MAY VIOLATE ONE'S RIGHT TO A FAIR TRIAL*

Source 2: *Allow TV full access to our courtrooms and justice will truly be seen to be done*

Sources for Question 2)

Source 1: *It's time to abolish GCSE's*

Source 2: *Higher GCSE grades linked to lifetime earnings boost*

Sources for Question 3)

Source 1: *Used electric cars need government subsidies*

Source 2: *ARE ELECTRIC VEHICLE SUBSIDIES EFFICIENT?*

Question to answer for chosen sources – each answer needs to be detailed – a full set of questions 1-4 should be at least 400 words.

1. What conclusion can we draw from the source?
2. How convincing is the argument made by the source?
3. How does the origin of the source (who wrote it, when etc.) impact the source, does it make it more or less valuable?
4. Would you trust this source? Why/Why not?

Final question once both sources are evaluated

1. Which source is better?
2. Why?