

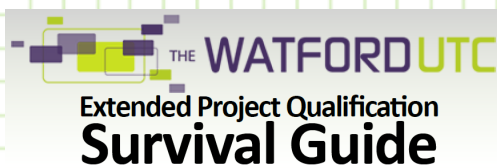
During their assembly last week, Y12 students were introduced to the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ).

An EPQ is an **additional qualification** students can choose to take alongside A-levels/BTECs but doesn't need to be related to a subject they're studying. The programme runs for a year and a half, starting from 12 October 2017 and finishing on 30th March 2019.



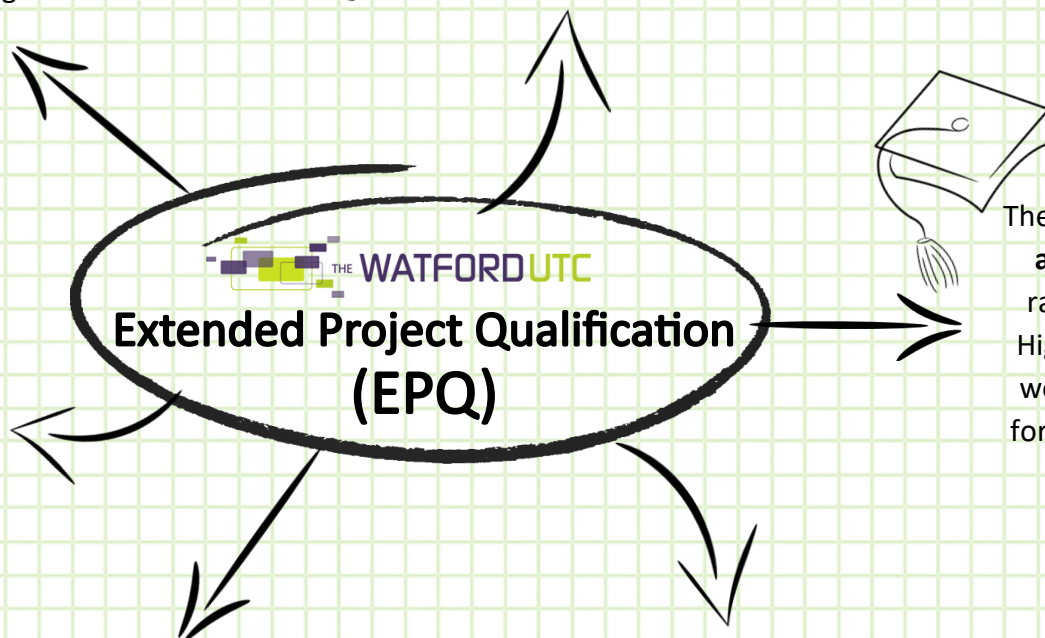
To apply, students have to complete and return the **record of initial ideas form** to sophie.matthews@watfordutc.org no later than the **10th of November 2017**.

Take a look at the **Watford UTC EPQ Guide** on our website www.watfordutc.org/students/ for loads of information and tips, it also plots the timeframe students will need to stick to throughout the year.



Students choose a topic or research question to study in great depth. They have to plan, research and carry out the project, keeping a production log which documents planning, research and production. The project finishes with a presentation delivered to a non-specialists audience. Previous EPQ's completed at the Watford UTC have included:

- Was Maths invented or discovered?
- Could humans ever use the dynamics of black holes to our advantage?
- Would implementing railways lines in Kathmandu Valley be beneficial to Nepal?
- Can the NHS reduce the number of serial killers that it employs?



The EPQ is **supported by universities and employers** as it develops a range of skills that are crucial for Higher Education and the world of work, whilst being an opportunity for students to **explore a topic they are interested in**.

It is a **commitment**, so students have to engage from the start and be prepared to follow a programme of actions and meet the deadlines in order to achieve this qualification.

There is **no formal teaching**: the management and production of the project is entirely carried out by the students themselves. However, regular support will be offered via **study skills masterclasses** in order to help develop those all-important skills to be able to carry out independent learning.

Students will also be allocated an **EPQ supervisor** who will support and give guidance on issues of project management.