

KS5	Golden Threads: To find the central argument or theme on a chosen topic that ties together all aspects of the research, analysis, and findings.				Enrichment: What is offered through the year to support learning in the classroom?		Review and evaluation: Give date for review of the curriculum
	Topics	Assessment	Substantive Knowledge	Disciplinary Knowledge	Misconceptions	Key Vocabulary	Knowledge tracking
Term 1	Throughout the teaching/supporting of the EPQ guidance is given in how to complete the Production Log (via ProjectQ). EPQ introduction and initial key skills. What is the EPQ? Why study for an EPQ? How do you choose an EPQ topic? Planning for the EPQ, to include: - Time management - Goal setting - Risk assessment	n/a	See topics column.	Research Skills: Students need to develop strong research skills to gather information from a variety of sources, including academic journals, books, primary documents, and digital resources. Understanding how to effectively search for and critically evaluate sources is essential for producing a high-quality EPQ. Critical Thinking: Critical thinking skills are crucial for analysing and evaluating information, arguments, and evidence. Students should be able to assess the credibility, relevance, and biases of sources, as well as construct well-reasoned arguments and counterarguments. Literature Review: Conducting a	Underestimating the Time and Effort Required: One of the most common misconceptions is underestimating the amount of time and effort required to complete an EPQ. Overreliance on the Supervisor: While supervisors provide guidance and support throughout the EPQ process, some students may mistakenly believe that their supervisor will do much of the work for them or provide all the answers. Narrow Topic Selection: Another misconception is choosing a topic that is too narrow or too broad.	Hypothesis Literature Review Primary Source Secondary Source Quantitative Data Qualitative Data Validity Reliability Credibility Peer Review Plagiarism APA/MLA/Harvard Style Abstract Conclusion Bibliography Ethical Considerations Critical Analysis Peer Evaluation	The nature of the EPQ means it has the potential to link to a number of subject specific areas, but this is dependent on the specific project chosen by the student. However, because it is an independent project, the disciplinary knowledge (see column) provides extremely relevant links to their wider KS5 study. In addition, it prepares them very well for further study or for professional workplaces.

			comprehensive literature review is an important aspect of the EPQ, regardless of the topic chosen. Students should be familiar with the process of reviewing existing literature and identifying gaps, debates, and trends within their chosen field of study. Academic Writing: Strong writing skills are essential for communicating ideas, organizing arguments, and presenting findings effectively. Students should be familiar with academic writing conventions, including proper citation and referencing formats, as well as the structure and style appropriate for their chosen discipline. Project Management: The EPQ requires students to manage their time effectively, set realistic goals, and monitor their progress throughout the project. Developing project		Project Management	
--	--	--	--	--	--------------------	--

			management skills involves creating a timeline, setting deadlines, and allocating sufficient time for each stage of the research process. Ethical Considerations: Students should be aware of ethical considerations related to their research topic, including issues such as confidentiality, informed consent, and the responsible use of information. Understanding ethical guidelines and principles is essential for conducting research in a responsible and ethical manner. Presentation Skills: In addition to writing a research report, students may be required to deliver a presentation or defend their project orally. Developing effective presentation skills involves organizing key points, using visual aids, and communicating			
--	--	--	--	--	--	--

			ideas clearly and persuasively to an audience. Interdisciplinary Perspective: Many EPQ topics span multiple disciplines and require an interdisciplinary perspective. Students should be open to exploring connections between different fields of study and drawing upon insights and methodologies from diverse disciplines to enrich their research. Overall, the EPQ provides students with an opportunity to develop a range of academic and transferable skills that are valuable for further study and future career endeavours. By engaging with key disciplinary knowledge and research practices, students can produce original, well-informed, and intellectually rigorous projects that demonstrate their ability to engage			
--	--	--	--	--	--	--

				critically with complex issues and topics.			
Term 2	Research skills, to include: - Finding and accessing resources - Evaluating resources - Literature reviews - Note taking - Plagiarism Independent Research.	n/a	See topics column.		Ignoring the Research Process: Effective research is a fundamental aspect of the EPQ, but some students may overlook the importance of conducting thorough and systematic research. Procrastination and Time Management: Procrastination is a common challenge for students completing the EPQ, especially given the independent nature of the project.		See term 1.
Term 3	Independent Research.	n/a	See topics column.				See term 1.
Term 4	Report writing – how to complete a piece of academic writing/how to construct an artefact, including referencing,	n/a	See topics column.		Overemphasis on Length: While the EPQ does have specific requirements in terms of length and format, some students may prioritize quantity over quality. They		See term 1.

	bibliographies and abstracts. Independent write up of report.				may focus solely on meeting the word count rather than producing a well-researched and coherent piece of work that demonstrates critical analysis and originality.		
Term 5	Presentation skills – what makes a good presentation? Independent write up of report. Presentation preparation and planning.	n/a					
Term 6	Final reminders; • self-reflection and evaluation • proof reading • presentation of final product • formal presentation of the EPQ. Hand in deadline.	Hand in of final EPQ for marking and submission to the exam board.	See topics column.		Neglecting the Reflective Report: The reflective report is a key component of the EPQ where students reflect on their research process, challenges, and learning outcomes. Some students may underestimate the significance of this component and provide superficial or generic reflections rather than engaging deeply with their experiences and insights gained from the project.		See term 1.

