



PLUME ACADEMY - LEARNING OVERVIEW

Year	May be sat in Year 12 or 13
Course	Level 3 Extended Project Qualification
Specification Number/Exam Board	7993 - AQA
Examination Papers and Weighting	100% Internal Assessment Completed Production Log Minimum 5000-word Written Report or: Minimum 1000-word Written Report with Artefact

Prior Learning

The course builds on prior learning by providing a secure way for learners to build on their existing knowledge of a topic or to undertake independent research in an area not linked to their current programme of study, whilst at the same time looking to meet the challenge of extending learners' skills, perspectives and understanding. Research and report writing skills acquired in Key Stage 4 will also be of use.

Curriculum Intent – What are the curriculum aims?

- To make a significant contribution to the choice and design of an extended project and take responsibility for an independent task
- To develop and improve own learning and performance as critical, reflective and independent learner
- To develop and apply decision-making and problem-solving skills
- To extend planning, research, critical thinking, analysis, synthesis, evaluation and presentation skills
- To develop and apply skills creatively, demonstrating initiative and enterprise
- To use learning experiences to support aspirations for higher education and/or career development
- To transfer skills developed as part of the extended project to other areas of study

Curriculum Implementation – What will my child will be learning?

Term 1	Half Term 1	Explore initial ideas for a project through conducting thorough research. Skills taught: Researching sources using ICT, project management, evaluating sources for credibility, referencing sources using MS Word, time management, creating and using GANTT charts, aims and objectives, working independently.
	Half Term 2	Continue research, write a detailed plan for each stage of the project, formulate argument and begin writing report/essay. Organise practical tasks if producing artefact. Skills taught: Types of primary research, etiquette of letter/email writing, ethics of research, critical engagement with information, plagiarism and writing academically.



Term 2	Half Term 3	Finalise and implement plan, interpret and analyse primary data. First draft complete. Skills taught: proof reading and editing work, displaying data, inferential statistics.
	Half Term 4	Prepare and deliver presentation, complete summary and reflection. Prepare portfolio and submit EPQ. Skills taught: Presentation skills, public speaking, practice with Q&A, becoming a reflective learner.
Term 3	Half Term 5	Quality assure standard of internal assessment
	Half Term 6	Course complete

Curriculum Impact – How will my child be assessed and receive feedback?

The EPQ is a single-unit, internally assessed qualification. Students will be guided through the process by having regular in-class meetings with their supervisor in which aspects of the project will be discussed. Students need to produce a production log, which is verified by the supervisor, a written report, supplementary evidence and a presentation. The marks cannot be awarded until after both elements are complete.

Students will be assessed against four objectives:

AO1 Manage

Identify, design, plan and complete the individual project or task within a group project, applying organisation skills and strategies to meet stated objectives

AO2 Use resources

Obtain and select information from a range of sources, analyse data, apply relevantly and demonstrate understanding of any appropriate linkages, connections and complexities of their topic

AO3 Develop and realise

Select and use a range of skills, including new technologies, to solve problems, to take decisions critically, creatively and flexibly, and to achieve planned outcomes

AO4 Review

Evaluate outcomes including own learning and performance. Select and use a range of communication skills and media to convey and present outcomes and conclusions

Following internal assessment, projects are externally moderated by the examination board.



Super-Curricular Opportunities – Supporting and Extending Learning

Useful study resources	If a student is really passionate about this subject they can...
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Future Learn free online course – ‘How to Succeed in your EPQ’• Open Learn free online courses• EPQ resources available from many University websites• Academic journals available on Google Scholar and JSTOR• Academic books available on Google Books• Facilities such as libraries, museums, galleries, online lectures, documentaries. <p>Textbooks: Andrews, C. <i>AQA Extended Project Qualification</i> (Philip Allan, 2019) ISBN: 9781510443143</p> <p>Flanagan, C. McGee, J. <i>EPQ Toolkit for AQA. A Guide for Students</i> (Illuminate Publishing, 2014) 9781908682383</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conduct primary research in an area of interest• Contact experts in the field• Access academic journal articles and books. <p>Books: Day, T. <i>Success in Academic Writing</i> (Macmillan Education UK, 2018) ISBN: 9781352002041</p> <p>Cottrell, S. <i>Critical Thinking Skills</i> (Macmillan Education UK, 2017) ISBN: 978113755057</p> <p>Cottrell, S. <i>50 Ways to Excel at Writing</i> (Red Global Press, 2019) ISBN: 9781352005882</p>