



**Oxford High School GDST**  
**The Warnock Extended Research Programme**  
**Frequently Asked Questions**

1. *What is the Warnock Extended Research Programme?*

It is an independent research project on an area that intrigues you or you are passionate about. It can, but does not have to, relate to an A Level subject and/or to what you want to study at University.

2. *Is it compulsory?*

Yes. The Warnock Extended Research Programme forms part of Oxford High School's Sixth Form Programme. Every Sixth Form student is required to produce a piece of work that is based on independent work and research and goes above and beyond the demands of their A Level studies.

3. *Why is it important?*

- It gives you the opportunity to focus on a topic that you are passionate about and is not available through other courses (e.g. it is an extension of your A Level course or something you cannot study at A Level).
- You learn how to study and research independently whilst developing project and time management skills.
- You grow in confidence before you progress into higher education and the workplace.
- You are working on something unique that you can discuss during University interviews and refer to in your personal statement.

4. *What are the Warnock Extended Research Programme pathways?*

As part of the Warnock Extended Research Programme, students can choose one of the following pathways:

- a. Opt for the AQA Extended Project Qualification (EPQ).
- b. Opt for the OHS Extended Research Project (ERP).

5. How are these pathways different?

EPQ	ERP
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The equivalent of half an A Level</li> <li>- Externally assessed</li> <li>- Receive lower offers from <b>some</b> Universities for <b>some</b> courses. You have to check the entry requirements of Universities and courses you are interested in carefully before deciding whether you want/need to do an EPQ or an ERP.</li> <li>- Paperwork intensive and process-driven; doesn't allow for flexibility</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Internally assessed</li> <li>- Get written feedback on your first draft from an external mentor who is an expert on the topic you are researching.</li> <li>- Enjoy more flexibility in terms of deadlines, freedom to select your topic, length of dissertation and ability to prioritise the one component of the project over the other (e.g. dissertation over presentation) based on your individual needs and aspirations.</li> </ul>

6. What do I need to produce as part of the Warnock Extended Research Programme?

Year 12: A Dissertation **or** an Artefact + a short dissertation

Note that:

- The length of the dissertation for EPQ is 5000 words. For an ERP it could be 3500-5000 but, depending on the project, we sometimes are able to allow less than 3500 or more than 5000 words.
- The length of the short dissertation accompanying an artefact for both ERP and EPQ is a minimum of 1000 words.

Year 13 (autumn term): Presentation of your research in front of an audience

Both in Year 12 and in Year 13:

EPQ	ERP
Keep a detailed production log	Keep a detailed record book
It is an ongoing record of your project's progress. It's a tool to track and manage the EPQ process. You will have ownership over it and it will be completed by you and your supervisor and EPQ coordinator	It is an ongoing record of your project's progress and it should include your ERP drafts or links to your drafts and presentation . The crucial difference between this record book and the EPQ production log is that the record book can be much less detailed in terms of recording your individual steps and the development of your project. The expectation is that
It needs to record:	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the initial ideas, project proposal recommendation and approval</li> <li>- meetings you have with your supervisor</li> <li>- project planning, progress and decision making</li> <li>- development of your project from the initial ideas to summary and reflection</li> <li>- your live presentation and Q and A marking by your supervisor.</li> </ul>	<p>more emphasis is given on the dissertation drafts and the mentor's feedback.</p> <p>It needs to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- summary of discussions with supervisor</li> <li>- research proposal</li> <li>- first draft and supervisor's comments</li> <li>- second draft and supervisor's comments</li> <li>- summary of external mentor's feedback and summary of decisions re next steps</li> <li>- final draft</li> <li>- presentation</li> <li>- a short reflection and review of your work.</li> </ul>
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### 7. *What is an artefact?*

A project for which you can create, for example:

- an engineered piece of work; a robot or a model aeroplane etc
- a play that you've written and produced, or directed
- an original musical composition
- a computer programme or website
- an exhibition of photographs or paintings

### 8. *Who supports me with my extended research project?*

People who support you are, first and foremost your supervisor, Dr K, Miss Pallas-Brown, teachers that may be experts in your topic, other professionals and speakers that we invite (e.g. speakers to help you understand how to reference, search for sources, prepare a presentation etc.). Please note that you have one ERP timetabled lesson a week and you can always have additional support from Dr K when you need it.

### 9. *How long do I have before deciding whether I am doing an ERP or an EPQ?*

- You need to decide and let us know whether you are doing the EPQ or the ERP during the week beginning the 31st of October (in the autumn term of Year 12)
- Up to the the end of the autumn term of Year 12 you can move from EPQ to ERP
- You cannot move from ERP to EPQ

### 10. More Questions?

Please do not hesitate to contact Dr Karapanagioti (Dr K), i.e. the Warnock Extended Research Programme Co-ordinator: [n.karapanagioti@oxf.gdst.net](mailto:n.karapanagioti@oxf.gdst.net)