

Innovative Level 3 qualification supporting the transition to work and higher education

# What is the EPQ?

The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) is a nationally recognised qualification at Level 3, carrying performance points and up to 28 UCAS points.

The EPQ is a single piece of work that requires a high degree of planning, preparation, research and autonomous working. Students are free to choose the topic for their project, however they must show that it is useful for their progression and is linked to their programme of study or their future career.

Available for delivery in England, ASDAN's EPQ has the same specification as those offered by other awarding organisations. It can be completed as either a 5,000 word dissertation or an artefact or performance accompanied by a 1,000 word report.

## How is ASDAN's EPQ different?

ASDAN's EPQ has an additional focus on completing the EPQ as part of a work placement. This could be a dissertation linked to a work placement, or an artefact and report created as part of a work placement.

"The new EPQ ASDAN is delivering gives students the opportunity to gain valuable employability skills through attendance at a work placement and completing a work-based project.

We believe that successful completion of this qualification will prepare learners for further study and employment."

Katie Jenkins, Director, Marketing and Future Students, UWE Bristol





# Course content

The ASDAN EPQ begins with a taught element (30 hours) to support learners in designing and carrying out their project.

The main project element of the qualification requires learners to plan, carry out and review an extended project of their own choice. The project can be linked to a work experience placement or a subject of study.

The total qualification time for the ASDAN Level 3 EPQ is 120 hours. It is graded  $A^*-E$  and carries performance table points ( $A^* = 18$ , E = 3) as well as UCAS points ( $A^* = 28$ , E = 8).

#### **Benefits for learners**

The ASDAN EPQ promotes the development of study and employability skills, valued by higher education and employers.

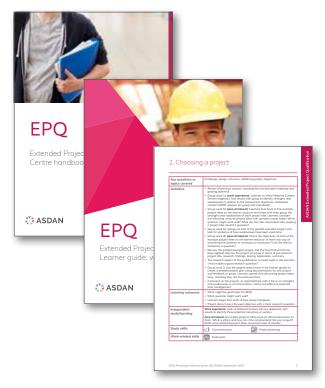
The unique benefit of building the EPQ around a work placement is that learners will get more value from the placement and be able to demonstrate to future employers that they have gained real-world experience and skills.

The qualification will also help learners looking to progress to higher education as it develops independent study skills, which are crucial for success at university.



## Materials and resources

A number of high quality resources are available to support learners, teachers, parents and employers involved in the ASDAN EPQ.



The following resources are available for EPQ centres:

- Specification and centre handbook
- Teacher guides to support projects based around an area of interest or work experience
- Guide for employers
- What's in it for me? and What's in it for them? booklets for learners and parents
- Teacher and learner resources to support the taught element, including PowerPoints, activity ideas and worksheets
- Learner project ideas guides to support projects based around an area of interest or work experience
- Mandatory forms
- Exemplar materials, including a full graded exemplar project

