

# Rationale for EPQ Teacher Assessments 2021

This year students will receive grades awarded and determined by teachers, with students only assessed on what they have been taught and based on the standard at which they are performing.

Fairness and flexibility are at the heart of this plan. Teachers have been asked to draw on a range of evidence when determining grades, including the optional use of questions provided by exam boards, as well as mock exams, coursework, or other work completed as part of a student's course, such as essays or in-class tests.

## EPQ is classified as Vocational, Technical and other non-general qualifications

Vocational, Technical and other non-general qualifications are to align with GCSEs, AS and A-levels where possible and, for the majority of the decisions, they do. This includes our project qualifications – including the Extended Project Qualification.

All other AQA non-general qualifications are in scope of alternative arrangements, which means **grades will be determined by teachers, just like GCSEs, AS and A-levels.**

## The Process for awarding a Teacher Assessment Grade (TAG) for EPQ at KNGS:

- At KNGS, a team of EPQ supervisors work with students to advise them on the completion of their projects. The process is overseen by the Centre Co-ordinator.
- The Centre Co-ordinator has taught EPQ for many years, with projects entered for external moderation in both the November and May exam series.
- EPQ requires students to produce a project based on a title of their choice. Evidence for assessment must include a completed EPQ log, report or report and artefact, and a presentation. There are four assessment criteria. The project is marked holistically and evidence for each assessment criteria can come from any part of the project evidence.

## TAG Grades 2021

The range of evidence used ensures that all Assessment Objectives are covered. Furthermore, all syllabus components will be considered when calculating the TAG. The weighting will be as follows:

Assessment objectives covered	Evidence	Type of Assessment	Expected Weighting to that component	Overall weighting to final TAG
A01	EPQ log Report plans Planning documents (i.e mind maps, notes) Diary/journal entries Presentation Presentation Q&A	Open book	20%	100%
A02	EPQ log Resource table Bibliography Reference lists References within report	Open book	20%	

	Foot notes Interviews Emails Questionnaires Presentation Presentation Q&A			
A03	EPQ log Report Artefact/report Presentation Presentation Q&A	Open book	40%	
A04	EPQ log Presentation Presentation Q&A Report conclusions/evaluation	Open book	20%	

- It has been recognised that some students' projects were severely affected by lock down and some students were unable to continue with their Artefact projects. In addition, some students were not able to contact supervisors for feedback. Supervising staff did not continue into Year 13, therefore the Centre Coordinator took on the supervision of these projects.
- Some students have been able to change their project from an artefact to a written report and additional time has been made available for the students to complete this.
- Additional evidence from the presentation, presentation question and answers, planning documentation, diaries and journals have been used to support assessment objective evidence where appropriate.
- When face to face presentations have not been able to go ahead, presentations via Teams have been used.
- All students have been encouraged to complete their EPQ projects. Where a student has not be able to complete their project due to special circumstances, the work that has been submitted will be used to award each assessment objective. Where appropriate, a student may be asked additional questions during the presentation to be used as additional evidence of assessment objectives.
- Internal quality assurance processes will take place to ensure that judgements are standardised.
- Any access arrangements and individual needs will be considered.
- Exam board support materials and guidance will be used to make grade judgements.