

ISEB
Independent Schools
Examinations Board

DISCOVER iPO

What is the iPQ?

- The iPQ provides a framework for teaching and assessing the development of independent project learning skills with pupils in years 5 - 8.
- The iPQ takes the form of a 15 - 20 hour project usually completed in years 7 - 8.
- Preparatory skills development can happen through smaller scale project work in years 5 - 6.
- The iPQ can function as a stand-alone addition to an existing curriculum or be used as an alternative to one or more curriculum subjects.



What is the iPQ?

Continued...

- It can be used to recognise extra-curricular skills, artistic or sporting talent or individual interests beyond the classroom too.
- Project work is assessed by the teacher and moderated by an ISEB-accredited iPQ moderator.
- Project work is submitted in the form of a record of the project process, the project outcome and evidence of a final presentation or performance of the findings or a created artifact.



Aims of the iPO

- To support the development of skills in independent learning.
- To provide a clear framework to support the teaching of project skills in years 5 - 8.
- To provide a framework for assessment that supports valid and reliable assessment of independent project learning skills.
- To encourage pupils to make use of a wide variety of forms of project, including creative and investigative routes.
- To facilitate the development of a wider set of skills than is typically developed by means of courses that culminate in written examinations, and thus to help equip pupils for the transition to senior schools and the wider world.



Why iPQ?

- Play to their strengths. The iPQ is about the process, not the outcome so pupils can select topics, investigations, talents or activities in which they excel.
- iPQ Mentors support pupils to develop their project in their own way and support the process of discovering new things and presenting them to others.
- It serves as an excellent complement to traditional examinations, developing additional skills that add to a child's portfolio of recognised achievements.
- It's build on the successful framework of the EPQ, a qualification aimed at A Level students wishing to showcase a wide

How does it work?



Assessment objectives, outcomes and activities

ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVE

PUPIL ACTIVITY

DEFINE

Pupils choose a project question or practical challenge.
They explore ways of answering the question or meeting the challenge.
They make decisions about what resources they will need to carry out their project and how they will use their time.

RESEARCH AND REVIEW

Pupils gather and study source material. They review sources using a system of references and apply these to their project. They create a bibliography.

DISCUSS AND DEVELOP

Pupils form their own response to the material they have studied. They consider the strengths and weaknesses of different possible answers or solutions. They draw their own conclusions or develop their own way of meeting their practical challenge.

REFLECT AND PRESENT

Pupils reflect on the project process. They consider what they have learned and what they would do differently if they were starting a new project. They present their project.

Words from the Chair at ISEB

In the spirit of the Extended Project Qualification taken in many senior schools in Year 12, the iPQ allows pupils in Years 7 and 8 to:

- Develop research skills
- Benefit from the opportunity to follow their own interests,
- Undertake research and modify their enquiry based on their discoveries,
- Graded as much on the process, the presentation of findings and reflection on how the project developed as on the output itself,
- Projects can be subject related, focussed on the creative and performing arts or sport, or arise from PSHE topics or other interests,
- Schools will be able to use this in lesson times, within or across subjects, as an enrichment activity or to explore whole school topics such as diversity, sustainability, the environment etc
- We see this as part of the preparation for lifelong learning which is an important part of Prep school provision and something which will help pupils make the best of their years at senior school.

See what others have done...

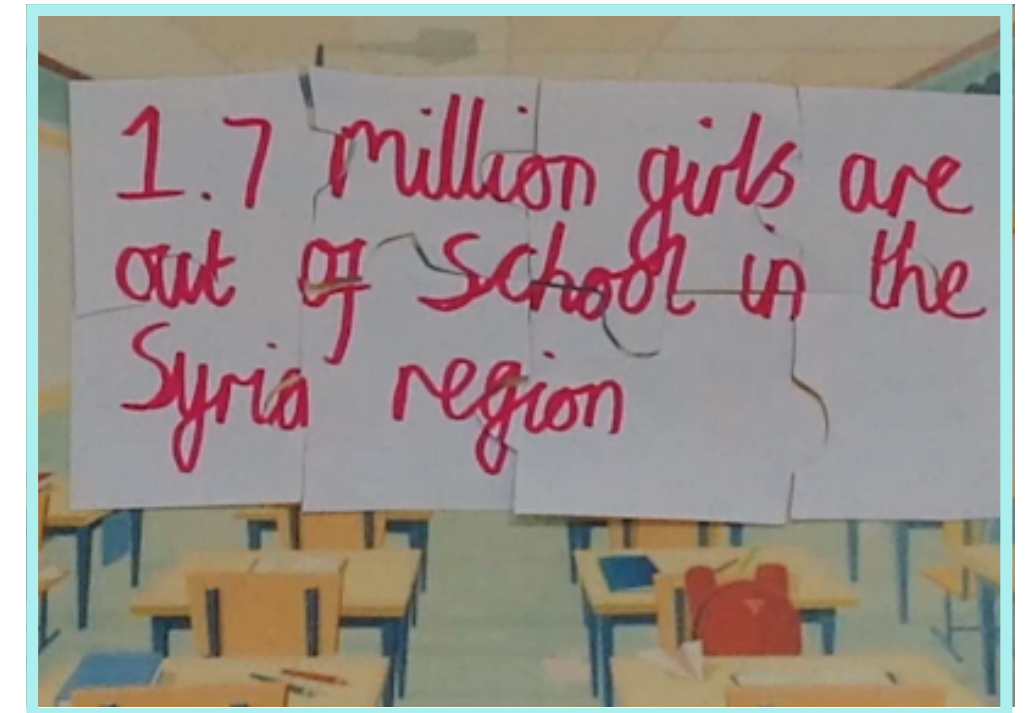
PRESENTATION

What Makes the Icelandic Horse Unique and Why?' (it has to do with their five gaits)



STOP MOTION ANIMATION CONTAINING 1175 INDIVIDUAL SHOTS

'If Malala Yousafzai had given up protesting after she was shot, what would have happened to girls' education?



PRESENTATION

"Is it Right to Test Cosmetics on Animals?' (did you know arsenic is not harmful to sheep?

What are the outcomes?

Words from an iPQ school...

Pupils develop an understanding of themselves: what they enjoy when they have the freedom to research what they love. It doesn't feel like 'work' in the same way. It starts helping them think of possible careers. It sows a seed.

The project instils a love of learning, critical thinking with a purpose through a tangible outcome, which is recognised by the independent sector's leading board: ISEB.

There is a sense of achievement and summative and formative assessment; used in conjunction with CE, or as a mixed economy.

What are the outcomes?

Words from an iPQ school...

Pupils develop preparation for the next stage in their journey. However, it is also for those who love to learn just because. It's as if pupils have been given their own key to a cerebral treasure chest.

Pupils have the opportunity to write reports, design websites, podcasts, powerpoints, make creative artifacts, put on a performance - whatever medium they wish to explore.

Pupils are armed with a complementary skill set when the iPQ is used together with more formal and traditional assessments.

External value

- Valued by secondary schools heads
- Join a growing cohort of students from around the world taking iPQ
- A recognised qualification in its sector
- Supporting skills for learning all the way to University and into the world of work: independent study skills, individual research, presenting evidence, reflecting on outcomes, contextualising ideas, undertaking your own project.



What Heads say...



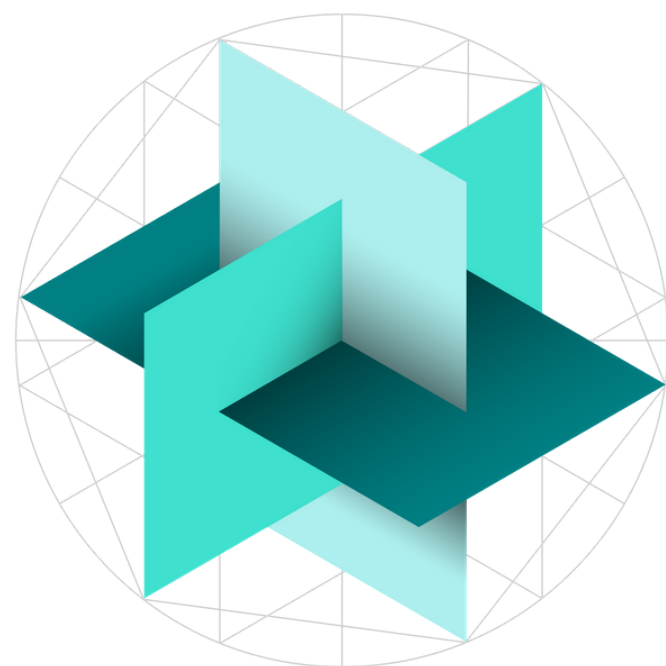
We welcome the way in which the iPQ develops self-discipline, strategy-planning and critical thinking. For us, these are some of the key skills and attributes that we look for in our students. Moreover, they help students to achieve highly at both prep and senior skills. We are delighted to see them being explicitly developed at an earlier age.

At my school we value persistence and an enquiring approach as these underpin high performance in numerous areas. We can see that the ISEB Project Qualification encourages and develops those attributes, and we are really excited about the positive impact of the project on the pupils who join us at 13+.

We have had a great experience and learnt a lot this year.

“The iPQ is Intellectual Candy. It is way too powerful not to do. Find a way.”





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