



# Projects.

## Endless Possibilities

### Level 2 Project Case Study Abbey College

Abbey College, a technology college situated in Ramsey, Cambridgeshire, has taken an innovative approach to the new Project qualifications from OCR. Currently, there are 26 Year 8 and 9 learners working towards the Higher Project (Level 2).

Specialist College Manager, Dr Charles Dalleywater, is also the Diploma Line Lead for Engineering for his local consortium: ***"In getting to grips with the different elements of the Diploma, I realised that the Project could be a stand-alone qualification at three levels. The pupils on our Key Stage 3 gifted and talented programme were already producing mini-projects and I realised that OCR's Project qualifications were a way for students to gain accreditation for their work."***

The Project can take many forms – a design, report, performance or an artefact – although assessment is focused not on the finished product but on the process the learner has worked through to get there.

Learners at Abbey College have chosen a wide range of topics.

Elliot, Year 9, aims to produce a documentary DVD considering the aerodynamics of gliders, while another learner is experimenting with different materials to make a working electric guitar.

Alternatively, the Project can be linked to other enrichment programmes within school or to external competitions.

David, Year 8, is studying the Arctic, having been inspired by a series of visits and workshops from the British Antarctic Survey, based at the University of Cambridge.

Whatever the learners study, ***"It is better to choose your own topic or to have a passion for something,"*** recommends Eleanor, Year 8, who is completing a piece of extended writing on her chosen subject of volcanoes and earthquakes. Similarly, April has focused on her personal choice of world music and believes, *"If you are interested in it, then you want to find the time to study."*

