



## **Maiden Erlegh Independent Project (MEIP)**

### **What is the MEIP?**

The MEIP (Maiden Erlegh Independent Project) is a research-based project that runs in the summer term each year for Years 7-9.

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### **What will you gain from participating in the MEIP?**

You will:

- Identify, design, plan, and complete an individual project, applying a range of organisational skills and strategies to meet targets.
  - Obtain, critically select, and use information from a range of sources; analyse data (where appropriate), apply it relevantly and demonstrate an understanding of any appropriate linkages, connections and complexities of the topic.
  - Select and use a range of skills, solve problems, take decisions critically, creatively and flexibly, to achieve planned outcomes.
  - Evaluate outcomes both in relation to agreed targets and own learning and performance.
  - Select and use a range of communication skills and media to present evidenced outcomes and conclusions in an appropriate format.
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### **How will the MEIP enrich your experience of studying at Maiden Erlegh School in Reading?**

The MEIP offers you the opportunity to:

- Develop and improve your own learning and performance as critical, reflective, and independent students.
- Develop and apply decision-making and problem-solving skills
- Extend your planning, research, critical thinking, analysis, synthesis, evaluation, and presentation skills.
- Develop and apply skills creatively, demonstrating initiative and enterprise.
- Use your learning experiences through the MEIP to widen and support your aspirations for higher education and/or career development.
- Transfer skills developed as part of your MEIP to other areas of study.

## How can you get involved?

To complete the MEIP, you are asked to produce and hand in a:


- c.1500 word essay to answer your MEIP question
- A portfolio containing:
  - Project plan, including: objectives, proposed resources to be used, proposed areas to cover
  - Production diary (for each date: what work was carried out, resources used)
  - Research evidence (samples of notes and plans)
  - Bibliography and evaluation of resources (at least 3 resources must be evaluated for their utility and reliability for researching the MEIP question)
  - c.500 words reflection, including: how you would extend / develop the project if you had more time, strengths and limitations of the project and the way it was carried out, how completing the project will support your future study and career aspirations, and what advice you would give to future MEIP students
- 'Poster show' style poster to present your research at the MEIP Presentation and Awards Evening

Here are some examples of outstanding work produced by last years MEIP cohort at Maiden Erlegh School in Reading

**What Are The Origins Of Manga And How Has The Art Style Evolved?**

**Beginnings Of The Manga Style**

Although the term Manga was only invented in the late 18th Century, the origins of the Manga drawing style can be traced back to the 12-13th century. Monks in Japan illustrated comical drawings depicting personified animals and scenes from Japanese life. This style was called Toba-e. By the 15th century this type of drawing had evolved into drawings that poked fun at human behaviour.



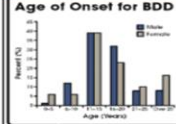
Chōji-jinbutsu-giga 12th-13th Century AD

Toba-e became very popular in Edo-era Japan (1603-1867) and collections of prints bound together to be sold was the beginning of comic-style books in Japan.

Katsushika Hokusai was one of the great artists of the Edo period. He was a woodblock printmaker who had adapted to western styles and was therefore known across the world for his prints, such as *The Great Wave Off Kanagawa* (1829).

**Body Dysmorphia:**  
According to the official NHS website  
'Body dysmorphic disorder (BDD), or body dysmorphia, is a mental health condition where a person spends a lot of time worrying about flaws in their appearance. These flaws are often unnoticeable to others.'  
Body dysmorphia can stem from loads of different circumstances such as abuse and sometimes people do not recover from Body Dysmorphia  
1 in 50 people have Body Dysmorphic Disorder. Also, body dysmorphia may seem like a common mental health disorder; it is a more complex situation for those who have been affected by it.

Body Dysmorphia can affect any person, regardless of their age but it is typically common amongst teenagers. It can sometimes lead to other disorders, for instance, bulimia (which Diana, Princess of Wales famously spoke out on in her 1993 interview). A common misconception is that people with body dysmorphic disorder are vain and self-centred, however, this isn't always the case. Being affected by body dysmorphia has a large impact on your self-esteem and sometimes you cannot compensate for the damage that has already been done. Over the years, statistics show that the average age for youth affected is children whose age ranges from 11-15. Obviously, these statistics could have changed yet our society normalizes the exceedingly high standards and unfortunately, this has left children suffering the consequences. The diagram also highlights how the disorder can affect any age group and gender but typically affects the spectrum's younger ages. Teenage years are already a struggle but when that pressure is doubled by this level of toxicity, those six years may result in them being dreadful.



## What should you do next?

If you think the MEIP is for you, please speak with or email Mr Tomsett who will be more than happy to help you, or wait for the launch of the MEIP in the summer term.