

Commentary on candidate 1 evidence

Project title: The Chemistry of Common Painkillers and the Public's Awareness of their Risks

Project proposal

The project outline is detailed and provided a clear indication of what the key pieces of work within the project will be. The candidate clearly explained why they had chosen to conduct this project, considering personal interest, future plans and links to other subjects.

The candidate made clear connections to all of the broad contexts, making detailed and relevant statements to support the project's relevance to each context. They provided evidence of a good range of specific learning environments to be used in the development of the project, clearly and succinctly summarising their existing knowledge and skills and how these will be used in the project.

The skills section has been completed in sufficient detail to clearly outline the candidate's current strengths and weaknesses and the specific skill sets that the candidate hopes to grow during the course of the project.

The feedback from the assessor, although brief, was positive and encouraging. More detailed assessor comments were provided in the assessor report, and it may have been of benefit to the candidate if the greater level of detail had been provided in writing at the feedback stage of each section of the project rather than being reserved only for the assessor report.

All of the C and A criteria have been met.

Project plan

The timescales were detailed in both a listing by month and a Gantt chart, which is included as a separate document. Both the listing and the Gantt chart clearly

identified 'Realistic timescales and achievable milestones for each stage of the project'.

The candidate had broken down each stage of the plan into multiple reasonably sized objectives which logically followed from one to the next. This gave clear evidence that the candidate planned the project in sufficient detail and that the plan had sufficient structure from the outset to guide the candidate to a successful conclusion.

The resources to be used, and their specific uses, have been identified. How the research is intended to be carried out is clearly detailed. The candidate showed initiative in choosing methods of research that will take them beyond the school environment, such as conducting interviews and creating surveys open to the public, rather than just a school cohort.

In the presentation section of the plan, the candidate provided a good justification for the public interest/benefit of their project. The candidate also provided a sound rationale for the choice of presentation method, indicating that they had considered accessibility for the chosen specific audience and the effectiveness of their delivery of the presentation.

The candidate identified the key dependency and outlined why other issues that may arise are not dependencies as such. The candidate identified contingencies that are all relevant to the project and thoughtfully considered methods of overcoming the issues arising from them.

The candidate provided a clear and detailed methodology for their skills development and improvement that should be both effective and efficient.

All of the C and A criteria have been met.

Presentation of project findings/product

The candidate provided a clear but limited summary of the presentation of the project findings and provided justifications for the decisions made regarding the accessibility of the poster presentation. For the presentation to an audience, the candidate

indicated changes made from the poster presentation and the reasons for these. The candidate also justified rejecting presenting their findings via a written report as this would be less appropriate for the audience involved.

Candidates would benefit greatly from providing as much detail as possible in this section. For example, some of the comments regarding the presentation made by the candidate in the evaluation and self-evaluation sections, could have been included here without detracting from those sections.

The assessor's report for this section was helpful in that it expands on, but does not substitute for, the details provided by the candidate to give a more complete image of the presentation. This is helpful to the verifier who will not have seen the presentation or any other final product, the poster presentation in this case, created as part of the project.

All of the C and A criteria have been met.

Evaluation of the project

The candidate provided a balanced and incisive evaluation of the project. The candidate commented on strengths and successes and also on areas which were less successful, identified areas in which the project could have been improved and the methods for making those improvements.

Additional candidate input on the presentation of findings is included in the evaluation of the project. The nature of these comments, though not in the presentation of findings section, holistically supports the award of the A grade criteria for the presentation of findings.

The candidate provided good examples of potential further work on the project topic. They also indicated that they are continuing to work on the project topic by completing work on the public information leaflet, that was included as part of the proposal, but dropped from the final plan for conducting the project.

All of the C and A criteria have been met.

Self-evaluation

The candidate provided a fair, detailed and reflective self-evaluation. The candidate's comments are supported and justified by evidence from throughout the project. The level of detail provided and the balanced view taken by the candidate clearly indicate that the A grade criteria have been achieved.

The assessor report comment for this section was very honest and provided further evidence of the growth of the candidate during the project, which further supported the examples given by the candidate in the self-evaluation.

All of the C and A criteria have been met.

Overview

This is an excellent interdisciplinary project which comfortably achieves the A grade criteria. The structure and formatting used by the candidate are exemplary and would provide a good model for other candidates to follow.