

## How to help your young person with their Research Project

[The Research Project is a compulsory Stage 2 SACE subject](#) that is completed by Year 11 students. It challenges them to think critically and creatively about real world problems, ideas and issues that are important to them. Most young people get stuck at some point during their Research Project, however, support and a fresh perspective from someone at home can be very helpful in getting those young people back on track.

At the moment your young person will be working on their Folio and their Outcome.

### The Folio

The Folio is essentially a 10 page record of work which demonstrates the processes a young person has used and the skills they have developed whilst conducting their research.

The Folio typically includes:

- A **research proposal**, which explains what the research topic is, where relevant information about that topic might be found, and how the research findings might be presented
- Evidence of **planning** (such as timelines, lists and mindmaps)
- Development of the research, including:
  - ◆ **Source analysis**
    - Can we trust the author, publisher and information?
    - What information or key ideas does the source contain?
    - How is that information relevant to the research question?
  - ◆ **Personal reflections** which explain a young person's thinking about their source, such as:
    - New questions raised by the source
    - Noticing patterns or trends in data or opinions
    - Thinking about whether the information in various sources is consistent or whether it conflicts, and how they are going to apply it in their Outcome (what does it prove?)
    - Organising the next steps in the research process.
- Evidence of the development of the chosen **capability** (by referring to specific actions undertaken by the young person whilst conducting their research).

### The Outcome

The Outcome is when the young person uses their research to answer their research question. It is important that they consider who their target audience is (the people, group or organisation that would be interested in this topic), and that they present their findings in a form that is suitable for those people. This could include for example, a formal report, poster, awareness campaign, physical product, video or performance (just to name a few!).

### How can you help your young person?

- Ask questions about their Research Project. Encourage your young person to question their information and challenge them to see other perspectives or viewpoints.
- The key to success in the Research Project is to work consistently both during and outside of class. Remind your young person to work on their Research Project at home. All Research Project students should be working on their research at home and during their timetabled study lines, regardless of where they are up to.
- Encourage your young person to access and use the support materials, examples and feedback they have received from their teachers. Remind them to use initiative to seek and respond to feedback on an ongoing basis.
- Contact the Research Project teacher if you have questions about how to support your young person or where they are up to with their project.