



ECAD 7004 Researching the Learning

Assignment support

Check: everything you need is available

- Moodle
- Personal session notes
- Key readings
- Assignment guidance
- Student support services
- Library services
- Harvard Referencing guide
- Module Leads

Aim, focus and purpose of the research / Research Context	300
What was the purpose/aim of your research? What was the issue that you wanted to address in your research? Why were you interested in this? How does it link to your reflection in your PLP? BRIEFLY note the school context within which the research took place. (You need to give information only if it is relevant to the research question. For example, there is no need to give details of the percentage of pupils with ALN / FSM eligibility if this has no bearing on your research topic.) BRIEFLY note the context of the class within which your research took place. What was your research question?	

Aim focus and purpose of your research

The research context:

Revisit:

- Noticing activity – why did you chose your particular focus?
- Being ethical – make sure the school cannot be identified (even in a reference)
- Research question – session 9

Overview of relevant literature

- **Revisit:**
- Session 8 – the literature review
- Harvard Referencing Guide
- Manchester Academic Phrasebank
- Read journal articles to see what is expected

Overview of relevant literature.

800

This section should be based on your research topic. It should consist of a discussion of key literature that relates to your study / research question.

Remember to:

- **Summarise and synthesise:** give an overview of the main points of each source and combine them into a coherent whole;
- **Analyse and interpret:** don't just paraphrase other researchers. If possible, discuss the significance of the findings in relation to the literature as a whole;
- **Critically evaluate:** mention the strengths and weaknesses of your sources, consider the author(s) and their expertise;
- **Write in well-structured paragraphs:** use transitions and topic sentences to draw connections, comparisons and contrasts.

What is the relevance of this literature to your own study?

How did this literature lead you to form your research question?

Did you hope to fill a gap in the current literature?

were you taking the research of another author further within your school/class context?

Discussion of research design: Case Study

Revisit:

- Session 4 – case study
- Key readings

Discussion of research design: Case Study

500

Refer to relevant literature to explain the purpose of using a Case Study approach.

What is Case Study research?

What are its strengths and limitations in relation to your research question?

Discuss your 'case' - who will the participants be in your case study? If relevant, discuss the method that you used to ensure a representative sample.

Being ethical

Revisit:

- Sessions 2 and 3
- Read key readings
- BERA Guidance on Educational Research (2018)
- Ethics processes

Being ethical

300

Explain any ethical considerations that are **relevant to your study**.

You **must** discuss positionality, i.e. the teacher/pupil relationship.

You **should** include information about anonymity and confidentiality.

You **must** discuss the process that you carried out in order to gain pupil assent.

Remember to refer explicitly to your Ethics Form, which you will include in your appendices.

Research methods

Revisit:

- Sessions 5 and 6
- Key readings
- Personal notes
- Check strengths and limitations are included

Research methods

1000

Write about the research methods that you chose to give you the data to answer your research question.

Did you seek to answer your question in words, numbers or both?; e.g. observation, interview, questionnaire, another method.

For each method, discuss these points justifying the choices you made:

- What does the research literature tell us about the method?
- What are the strengths and limitations of the method?

Explain your observation schedule / interview questions / questionnaire questions / other method. Have you used a specific structure? (closed or open questions, tick boxes etc.); a specific scale? (e.g. Leuven)

Discuss any information that had an impact on the research method, e.g. the age or attainment of pupils.

You **should** refer back to the literature wherever possible.

Remember to refer to your research tools, which you should label individually (Appendix 1, Appendix 2 etc.) and include these as one document in your appendices.

Data presentation and discussion of results

Revisit:

- Session 16

Data Presentation and Analysis Method(s) Include information about any processes that you carried out to ensure trustworthiness (credibility, transferability, dependability and confirmability) if relevant. Explain the method(s) that you have used to report your data. Refer to relevant literature to support your decisions.	400
Results / Analysis of results / Discussion The content of this section will depend on the research methods that you have used. Once you have presented the data and discussed it, you should consider: What do the data mean? What did you find out? • What does that mean for your class/the participants/the school? • How does this link to literature? NB Do not feel that you must have an 'answer' to your research question.	700

Reflection and recommendations

Conclusions - Reflection Critically examine the work that you undertook when preparing for your research study; for example: • Were the methods of collecting data reliable within your context? • How valid were the methods? • Would the findings be able to be generalisable? (You could merge the Conclusions with the Recommendations section if you prefer.)	300
Recommendations - Action What recommendations would you make in light of your research? Is there an intervention that you would like to put in place to address an issue that you have found in your summer placement? How might your findings be taken forward to inform further research?	200

Reference list and appendices

Revisit:

- Harvard referencing
- Being ethical
- Confidentiality and anonymity

Reference List

Appendices

These **must** include:

- Any research tools that you created, e.g. Observation Schedule, Interview Questions, Questionnaire, details of any other research method.
- Ethics Form
- Blank parental consent letter and details of the method used in order to gain pupil assent