

Report for Academic Skills Assignment 1 2017 – Ysgol Crug Glas Tuck-shop Project



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MODULE NAME:	ACADEMIC SKILLS (M4X01434)
PROJECT NAME:	YSGOL CRUG GLAS TUCKSOP PROJECT
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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The report is a project brief for the Ysgol Crug Glas tuck-shop project, the team working with Ysgol Crug Glas and their students will bring their tuck-shop to Swansea business school, Ysgol Crug Glas is a school for children with profound disabilities and learning difficulties. The school focus on maximising the potential of all their students, Ysgol Crug Glas is also a registered charity. The main aim of this project is to integrate the students from Ysgol Crug Glas within the Swansea business school through the tuck-shop allowing them to further develop their interpersonal skills, while still maintaining their engagement and enjoyment. Another objective the team has for this project is to raise money and awareness for Ysgol Crug Glas as a school. To do this, the team will work within strict timescales implemented in stages, meaning the teachers and students from Ysgol Crug Glas will visit the business school before their initial tuck-shop the first week in November. After this first tuck-shop, the team will have a larger tuckshop based on the results gathered from the first. The team has used relevant literature to better understand how to work with children that have disabilities, the findings of this research have shown that regular interaction and engagement is key. This research has guided the team throughout their planning. It is hoped that this project will be a positive and ongoing experience for the Ysgol Crug Glas Students.

2. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this project group is to boost the disabled children's confidence and to integrate them within Swansea business school, this will be done through a tuck-shop.

These children are from a special school located in the heart of Swansea, and it is currently providing for 57 pupils aged between 3 and 19 years (*Swansea Edunet , 2017*). In the following pages, you will gain a better understanding of the project members, the aims and objectives, report remit, project implementation and the background of the organisation. This document also includes charts, this report includes a variety of information gathered both first hands at the school, and through the research of relevant literature to offer our project a strong foundation.

2.1 REPORT REMIT

The Ysgol Crug Glas tuckshop team are a group of five, they will be carrying out primary and secondary research, mostly in the form of relevant literature to enable them to discuss and further understand the aims and objectives of the Ysgol Crug Glas tuck-shop project. The aims and objectives are implemented through a plan which will include timeframes and potential barriers. They will have multiple meetings to discuss the key aspects of their plan, this will help them in achieving their end objectives. The main aim is to interact with the children within a new environment, at the Swansea business school.

2.2 BACKGROUND OF THE ORGANISATION

Ysgol Crug Glas is a school situated in Swansea City Centre, it currently provides for 57 students at ages ranging between three and nineteen years old. All students suffer with severe and complex learning difficulties, mainly; communication, behavioural and sensory difficulties. Most of the students attending this school also have specific health care requirements. (Reisman and Scott, 2012) The school strives on being positive towards every individual that attends. Their motto is "YES I CAN – SMALL STEPS EVERYDAY" (Hobson, 2017) and their aim as a school is to maximise the potential of all students, especially in enabling communication. The school has very high level of support given by the large amounts of staff which all go above and beyond to make sure they are able to give the children the support needed, in fact they have been an Investor in people since 2004. They were also awarded for the Basic skills quality mark at both primary and secondary level in 2009 and three years earlier in 2006. The school employ their own school nurses and therapists to ensure both the students and parents are comfortable with all members of staff within the school. Thanks to the friends of Ysgol Crug Glas, the school has managed to update the grounds ensuring that they provide only the best to their students such as now also offering summer play scheme which is linked in with interplay. (Hobson, 2017) "The school is currently a pioneer school". (Estyn, Her Majesty's Inspectorate for Education and Training in Wales, 2017)

2.3 AIM AND OBJECTIVES

Ysgol Crug Glas's faculty have asked the team to work with their students that run the tuck-shop, the tuck-shop will be brought to the Swansea business school. This will allow the Ysgol Crug Glas students to use the life skills they have developed while running the tuck-shop at their school, in a new environment, and on a larger scale. The team will work alongside the Ysgol Crug Glas students, as co-workers within the tuckshop. *Kulkarni and Lengnick-Hall, (2011)* state that interacting daily with both co-workers and peers may be the most important factor when trying to integrate new employees. For this project to be possible the team has decided to work in stages, initially they visited Ysgol Crug Glas this allowed them to engage with the pupils and liaise with the teachers. Students from Ysgol Crug Glas's will visit the business campus before attempting the tuck-shop, so they can become familiar with the environment. The main objective for the tuck-shop at the business school is to engage the children within their own community. However, both the team and school are aware the tuck-shop could be more profitable than it is currently, in turn raising more money for the school and pupils within the school. This would be marginal in comparison to the social benefits the students get from participating in the tuck-shop, and the responsibilities it entails. With that said if and where possible the team will aim to raise a small amount of money for the school, this will not only help the school but also allow the students to be aware of their contribution in the money raised.

2.4 PROJECT TEAM

Dale Lawrence – Project Team Leader

Dale is the Project Team leader, his responsibilities include organising the group and structuring the tasks that are needed to complete the project; by assigning individual members their roles.

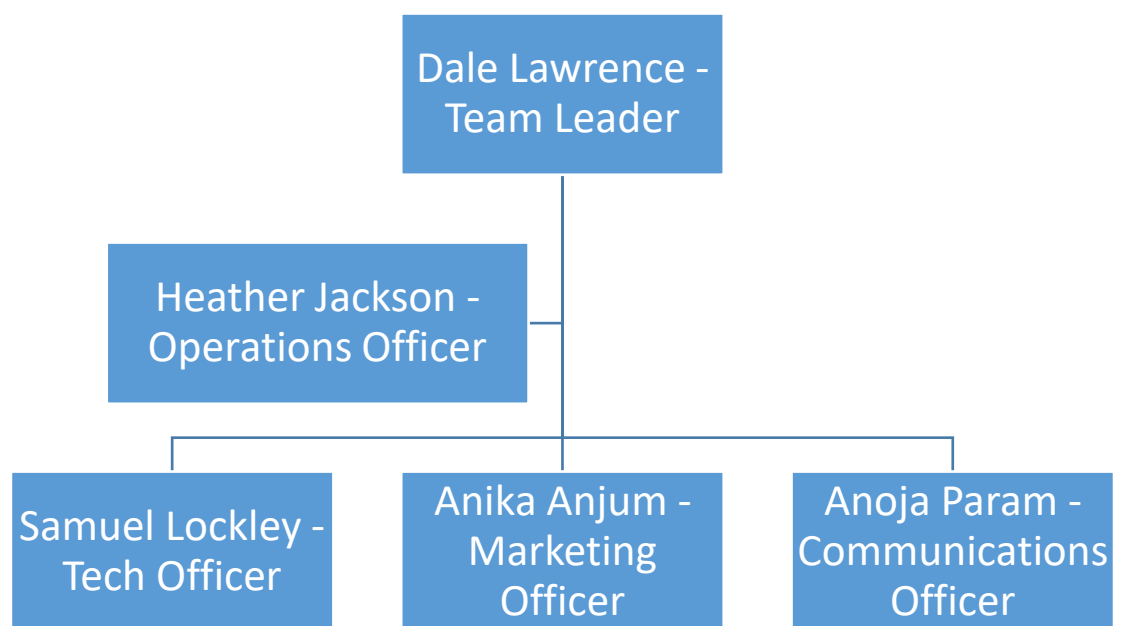


Figure 2-1 - Project Team Chart

2.5 PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

To achieve the previously discussed aims and objectives the team have decided to work closely with the school to ensure the children at Ysgol Crug Glas are comfortable and capable of any plans they have set for the tuck-shop. The initial meeting with the school was made on the 17th of October 2017, during this, the team liaised with the teachers and met some of the students that participate in the tuck-shop. Following this initial meeting, the team will follow up with several further meetings with students and staff from the school. The pupils at Ysgol Crug Glas will visit the business school the last week in October, following this on the 2nd of November they will come to the business campus to work together with the team on a small practice tuck-shop. At this tuck-shop the students will work in fifteen-minute shifts, this will optimise the children's ability to engage with the project. According to Carpenter et al, (2015) strong engagement skills are key to successful learning, that children with complex learning difficulties and disabilities need to be taught and engaged with in a way that suits their individual needs. By allowing the students to engage within the tuck-shop with students and staff at the university they will further develop the skills they have already made and interact in a new environment, which are two of their main goals for this project. After evaluating this first tuck-shop the team will then proceed to their main event on the 7th of December 2017, this will be a larger scale replica of the first tuck-shop at the business school with the hope to raise a larger amount of money.

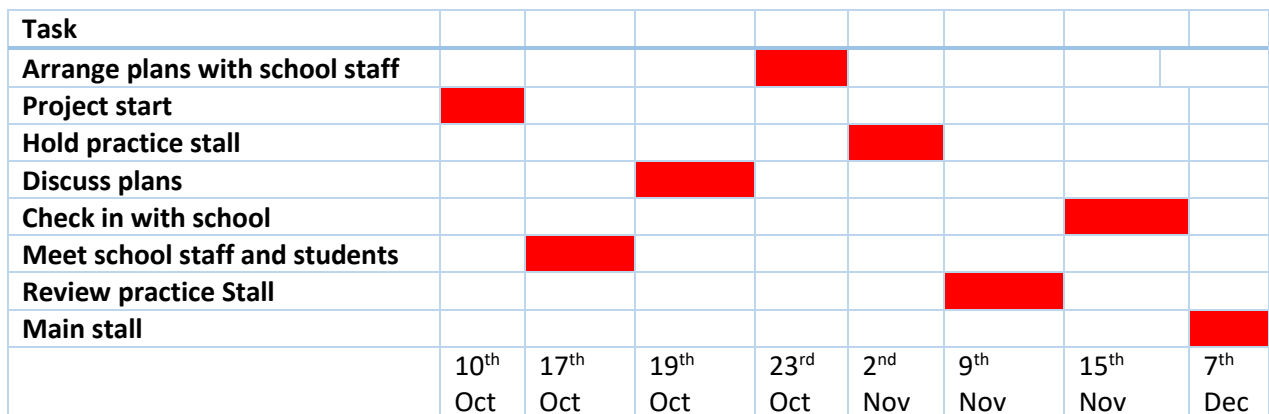


FIGURE 2-2 - GANTT CHART

2.6 CONCLUSION

It is hoped that by participating in the tuck-shop within the university campus that the children of Ysgol Crug Glas can get a social experience that they wouldn't normally be able to get in life, this would then, in turn, help them to be more comfortable around others in general thus more easily able to integrate into the norms of society. As such the project is not about how much money they make in the end but what they gain from it personally instead ensuring that they all have an enjoyable time from it. It is also hoped that doing so will bring a better understanding and awareness to those unfamiliar with the sort of disadvantages that the children deal with daily.

3. REFERENCES

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Appendix A

Ysgol Crug Glas Initial Meeting | MINUTES

- 17th October | 12:30 | Ysgol Crug Glas

Meeting called by	Ysgol Crug Glas Project Team	Attendees
Type of meeting	Ysgol Crug Glas's Aims	Heather Jackson
Facilitator	Heather Jackson	Samuel Lockley
Note taker	Samuel Lockley	Anika Anjum
Timekeeper	Anika Anjum, Anoja Param	Anoja Param

- **AGENDA TOPICS**

- 90 Minutes | 12:30 | Ysgol Crug Glas's Objectives for The Project Team
 - The school want the team to integrate their students into the local community
 - They want the team to do this using their current tuck-shop model
 - The team cannot take photos of the students at the business school
 - Allot of their students cannot speak and or have trouble communicating
 - The teachers will be with the students always
 - Ysgol Crug Glas DO NOT want to make the tuck-shop more profitable
 - The students will "work" at the tuck-shop in 15-minute shifts

In conclusion to this meeting the team have decided to carry out their project in multiple stages, and will research the best ways for them to interact and engage with the students, while also seeking advice from the faculty at Ysgo Crug Glas.