Assignment One – Research Methods
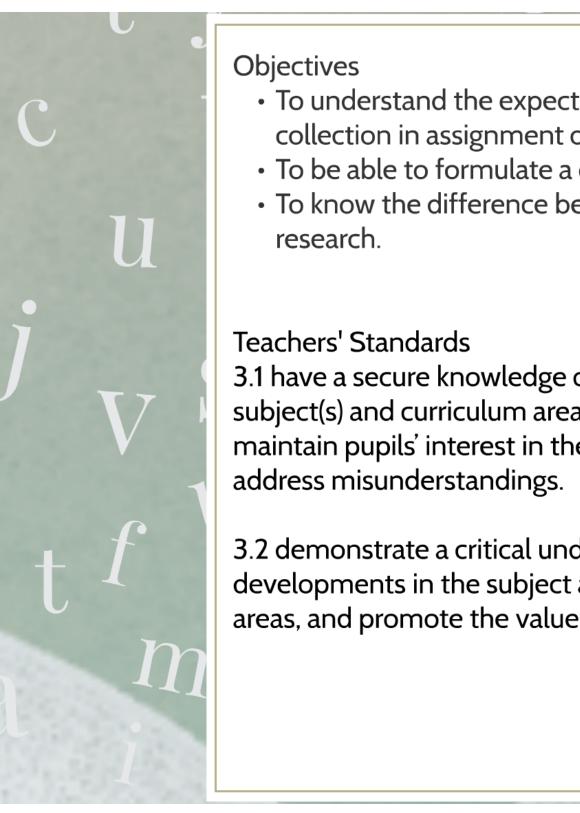
Assignment One - Research Methods

Thursday 2nd October

Objectives
- To understand the expectations for data collection in assignment one.
- To be able to formulate a data collection plan.
- To know the difference between an audit and research.

Teachers' Standards
3.1 have a secure knowledge of the relevant subject(s) and curriculum areas, foster and maintain pupils' interest in the subject, and address misunderstandings.

3.2 demonstrate a critical understanding of developments in the subject and curriculum areas, and promote the value of scholarship.

The Importance of Research for the Future of Education

"Basing our practice solely on our own learning experiences, without reflection, mean education runs the risk of being outdated and not being forward-looking."

"Theories come and go and any single theory cannot operate in isolation. Theories need to be combined, tested and challenged in order to allow us to adapt to suit local and personal environments."

"Teachers project their own personality upon learning experiences. Sometimes this is intuitive and these decisions can either be successful or fail. Research methods give teachers the tools to analyse and make informed decisions about their practice."

Kit Field

Assignment One Overview

What progress have you made with your assignment so far?

- Focus
- Literature review
- Referencing
- School context
- Critical reading

Investigate an area of teaching and learning or curriculum development in your primary school. (5000 words)

Introduction and school context - establish the area you will be investigating and information about your school setting

Literature review – what is the current thinking/ research findings on your aspect?
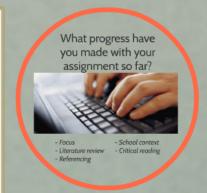
Analysis of current provision of your aspect including findings from audit interviews, observations, documentary evidence, Ofsted reports etc.

Action plan – detailed action plan showing the actions you could take within school to develop provision

Rationale for action plan - explain how your action plan will improve progression

Conclusion – summarising the main points of your argument

Appendices - include evidence of your data collection

What progress have you made with your assignment so far?

- Focus
- Literature review
- Referencing
- School context
- Critical reading

...tion tools and analysis
...uld be in the appendix of your
assignment
• Interpret the information, present the
findings, highlight key points.

In your assignment
• Analyse your data, rather than stating
findings
• Use your data to inform your action
plan
• Link your analysis of current provision
to literature review discussions

Analysis of Current Provision

Quantitative	Qualitative
Scientific/experimental design	Naturalistic inquiry
Deductive reasoning	Holistic perspective
Quantitative data (numbers)	Uniqueness and diversity
Methods - structured, standardised	Qualitative data (words)
Fixed, controlled design	Methods - unstructured, open-ended
Statistical analysis	Emergent, flexible design
Generalisations	Content analysis
E.g. Questionnaires, Surveys	Extrapolations
	E.g. Interviews and observations

Assignment One Overv...

Investigate an area of teaching and learning or
curriculum development in your primary school
(5000 words)

Introduction and school context - establish the a...
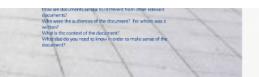you will be investigating and information about y...
school setting
Literature review – what is the current thinking/
research findings on your aspect?
Analysis of current provision of your aspect includi...
findings from audit interviews, observations,
documentary evidence, Ofsted reports etc.
Action plan – detailed action plan showing the actio...
you could take within school to develop provision
Rationale for action plan - explain how your action pl...
will improve progression
Conclusion – summarising the main points of your
argument
Appendices - include evidence of your data collection

Quantitative	Qualitative
Scientific/experimental design	Naturalistic inquiry
Deductive reasoning	Holistic perspective
Quantitative data (numbers)	Uniqueness and diversity
Methods - structured, standardised	Qualitative data (words)
Fixed, controlled design	Methods - unstructured, open-ended
Statistical analysis	Emergent, flexible design
Generalisations	Content analysis
E.g. Questionnaires, Surveys	Extrapolations
	E.g. Interviews and observations