

MYP PERSONAL PROJECT HANDBOOK

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1 INTRODUCTION

The MYP Personal Project is a significant independent research-based endeavor that allows students to explore a topic of personal interest while demonstrating the skills developed throughout the Middle Years Programme (MYP). As the culminating task of the MYP, this project challenges students to think critically, apply research and organizational skills, and engage in self-directed learning.

At Westlink International School, we believe that the Personal Project is a valuable opportunity for students to showcase their creativity, personal growth, and commitment to academic excellence. This handbook is designed to provide students, supervisors, and community mentors with the necessary guidelines, deadlines, and resources to ensure a meaningful and successful project experience.

Students are encouraged to take ownership of their projects, setting clear goals, engaging in thorough research, and reflecting on their learning journey. The skills and experiences gained from the Personal Project will not only support academic development but also prepare students for future challenges in the IB Diploma Programme and beyond.

This handbook will serve as a reference throughout the process, providing essential information on project expectations, assessment criteria, and the required components. We look forward to supporting you on this exciting journey of inquiry, exploration, and achievement.

Welcome to the MYP Personal Project at Westlink International School. This handbook will guide you through the process, providing essential information, timelines, and resources to support your journey.

2 NATURE OF THE PERSONAL PROJECT

The Personal Project is an independent, student-centered inquiry culminating in a product or outcome. It allows you to explore an area of personal interest and demonstrate the skills developed throughout the MYP.

3 AIMS & OBJECTIVES

The Personal Project aims to:

- Strengthen ATL skills such as research, critical thinking, & self-management.
- Consolidate prior and subject-specific learning.
- Provide an opportunity for personal & creative expression.
- Prepare students for independent learning in future academic pursuits.

4 ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

Student Responsibilities:

- Select a meaningful & feasible topic.
- Maintain regular contact with your supervisor.
- Document your process consistently.
- Adhere to deadlines & academic integrity guidelines.

Supervisor Responsibilities:

- Provide guidance & formative feedback.
- Monitor progress & authenticity of work.
- Ensure ethical research practices are followed.

Community Mentors:

- Offer expertise & insights relevant to the project topic.
- Provide real-world perspectives on student inquiries.

Coordinator Responsibilities:

- The MYP Coordinator is responsible for registering all grade 10 (MYP Year 5) students for moderation & ensuring timely submission of required documents.

5 PROJECT COMPONENTS

Process Journal:

- A record of your planning, research, & reflections.
- Should include ideas, challenges, & progress notes.

Product/Outcome:

- A tangible or intangible creation demonstrating learning.
- Must align with your project's goal & success criteria.

Report:

The report is a structured reflection & documentation of your entire project journey. It should demonstrate how you engaged with the inquiry process, developed & applied ATL skills, & created a meaningful product/outcome. The report must be written formally & include the following sections:

🔗 Introduction

- Define the goal of your project and its connection to the chosen global context.
- Explain why this topic was of personal significance to you.

🔗 Investigation

- Describe your research process, including primary & secondary sources.
- Explain how you developed your success criteria for the product/outcome.

🔗 Planning

- Outline your action plan & timeline.
- Describe how you managed your time & resources effectively.

🔗 Taking Action

- Detail the creation of your product/outcome.
- Reflect on the challenges faced & how they were overcome.
- Explain any modifications made during the process & justify them.

✧ Reflection

- Evaluate the success of your product based on the initial success criteria.
- Discuss how the project has contributed to your personal growth.
- Identify ATL skills you have strengthened & areas for future improvement.

✧ Bibliography

- List all sources used in the research following APA 7 citation style.

✧ Appendices (if applicable)

- Include additional supporting documents, such as surveys, interview transcripts, or sketches.

GLOBAL CONTEXTS

Choose one global context to frame your project:

- Identities and Relationships
- Orientation in Space and Time
- Personal and Cultural Expression
- Scientific and Technical Innovation
- Globalization and Sustainability
- Fairness and Development

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

The Personal Project is assessed using four criteria, each scored on an 8-point scale, for a total possible score of 32. The criteria are:

Criterion A: Planning (8 points)

- Define a clear goal and context for the project.
- Identify prior learning & subject-specific knowledge relevant to the project.
- Develop clear & achievable success criteria for the product/outcome.

Criterion B: Applying Skills (8 points)

- Demonstrate research & self-management skills to complete the project.
- Use a variety of sources effectively to support the inquiry.
- Apply practical skills to create the product/outcome.

Criterion C: Reflecting (8 points)

- Evaluate the quality of the product based on the success criteria.
- Reflect on how the project has impacted personal learning & growth.
- Discuss how ATL skills have developed through the process.

Criterion D: Product/ Outcome (8 points)

- Produce a high-quality product that effectively meets the project goal.
- Show creativity and originality in the final outcome.
- Provide a well-structured report with clear evidence of learning.

Each criterion is graded using specific descriptors that outline expectations at different achievement levels.

MYP PERSONAL PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

Choose one global context to frame your project:

- **Academic Honesty Form:** Students must document at least three formal meetings with their supervisor.
- **Comprehensive Bibliography:** Students must cite all sources following APA 7 citation style.
- **Supervisor Meetings:** At least three formal meetings must be recorded & documented in the academic honesty form.
- **Assessment Criteria:** The project is evaluated based on four IB criteria: Investigating, Planning, Taking Action, & Reflecting.
- **Submission Components:** Each project must include:
 - The completed Academic Honesty Form
 - The final project report (written, oral, visual, or multimedia format)
 - A detailed bibliography formatted in APA 7.

TIMELINE & DEADLINES

Week	Date Range	Task
T1 W1-2	Aug 18-30	Introduction to the Personal Project, brainstorming, exploration of Global Contexts
T1 W3	Sep 3-6	Topic Proposal & Supervisor Assignment
T1 W5	Sep 9-13	Goal Setting & Success Criteria
T1 W7	Sep 16-20	Research & Process Journal Check #1
T1 W10	Oct 1-4	Detailed Planning & Process Journal Check #2
T1 W12	Oct 25-31	Midpoint Review & Supervisor Meeting
T1 W15	Nov 18-22	Draft Product Development & Process Journal Check #3
T1 W17	Dec 9-12	End of Term Reflection
T2 W6	Feb 10-14	Product Completion & Supervisor Check-in
T2 W8	Feb 24-28	Begin Writing the Report
T1 W17	Dec 9-12	End of Term Reflection
T2 W6	Feb 10-14	Product Completion & Supervisor Check-in
T2 W8	Feb 24-28	Begin Writing the Report
T1 W10	Mar 10-14	Draft Report Submission
T2 W12	Mar 24-28	Final Report Submission Deadline
T3 W4	May 26-30	Personal Project Exhibition

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