

Internal assessment criteria

The following rubric is used in the assessment.

Criterion A: Introduction (6 marks)

Marks	Level descriptor
0	The work does not reach a standard described by the descriptors below.
1–2	• The aim or research question is stated but not clearly expressed or is too broad. • The real-life problem is stated. • The findings and conclusions of two pieces of research are not clearly stated and are not made relevant to the investigation, or only one piece of research is included.
3–4	• The aim or research question is clearly stated but only partially focused. • The real-life problem is described, but the impact on the population of interest is not addressed. • Relevant findings and conclusions of two pieces of research are described and linked to the investigation or only one is explained and linked to the investigation.
5–6	• The aim or research question is clearly stated and focused. • The real-life problem is described and the impact on the population of interest is explained. • Relevant findings and conclusions of two pieces of research are explained and linked to the investigation.

Criterion B: Research methodology (6 marks)

Marks	Level descriptor
0	The work does not reach a standard described by the descriptors below.
1–2	• The research method is described with errors in understanding. • The procedure is described but is unclear due to errors or omissions. • Ethical considerations are described but not linked to the investigation.
3–4	• The choice of research method is described. • The procedure is described but lacks detail. • Relevant ethical considerations are described but some are not linked to the investigation.
5–6	• The choice of research method is explained. • The procedure is explained. • Relevant ethical considerations are described and explicitly linked to the investigation.

Criterion C: Data collection (6 marks)

Marks	Level descriptor
0	The work does not reach a standard described by the descriptors below.
1–2	• An appropriate data collection tool has been created to measure behaviour, but it contains errors. • Decisions made when creating the data collection tool are in limited detail or have limited relevance to the aim or research question of the investigation. • Potential challenges when collecting data are described in limited detail and/or are not relevant to the investigation.
3–4	• An appropriate data collection tool has been created to measure behaviour. • Decisions made when creating the data collection tool are described and relevant to the aim or research question of the investigation. • Potential challenges when collecting data are described and relevant to the investigation.
5–6	• An appropriate and effective data collection tool to measure behaviour has been created. • Decisions made when creating the data collection tool are explained and relevant to the aim or research question of the investigation. • Potential challenges when collecting data are explained and relevant to the investigation.

Criterion D: Discussion (6 marks)

Marks	Level descriptor
0	The work does not reach a standard described by the descriptors below.
1–2	• Potential findings of the investigation are described but the implication(s) for policy/practice are not addressed. • One or more examples of researcher bias are identified. • The usefulness of one relevant additional research method is described, without reference to increasing the understanding of the area of investigation.
3–4	• Potential findings of the investigation are described and the implication(s) for policy/practice are partially addressed. • One or more relevant examples of researcher bias are described. • The usefulness of one relevant additional research method is discussed without reference to increasing the understanding of the area of investigation.
5–6	• Potential findings of the investigation are described in detail and the implication(s) for policy/practice are explained. • One or more relevant examples of how researcher bias may affect the investigation are discussed. • The usefulness of one relevant additional research method is discussed with reference to increasing the understanding of the area of investigation.