



Project Studio 1: Project Direction & Shared Understanding

Purpose

To establish the Project Studio as a collaborative working space and support learners to clarify and articulate their project direction.

Key focus

- Project aims, objectives, and outcomes
- Understanding expectations of the Independent Project
- Normalising uncertainty and iteration

Studio activities

- Group welcome and studio norms (collaboration, respect, independence)
- Learners share their current project idea or working direction
- Guided peer questioning to help refine aims
- Identification of early research or skill needs

Learner outputs / evidence

- Clarified or refined project aim
- Initial objectives reviewed
- Journal entry: starting point and intentions

Assessment focus:

Project selection, rationale, and clarity of intent.

Contributes evidence towards:

- **Project proposal (aims, objectives, outcomes)**
Learners articulate and refine their project direction.
- **Journal / reflective log**
Reflection on starting point, motivations, and initial thinking.
- **Research record (early stage)**
Identification of initial research needs or questions.

Assessment language supported:

- Selecting and planning an independent project
- Identifying aims and objectives

Project Studio 2: Planning, Time Management & Project Structure

**Purpose**

To support learners to move from ideas to structured, manageable plans.

Key focus

- Breaking projects into stages
- Realistic time planning
- Balancing projects alongside other commitments

Studio activities

- Review of individual project plans or timelines
- Facilitated discussion on pacing, workload, and pressure points
- Peer sharing of planning strategies
- Quiet supported planning time

Learner outputs / evidence

- Draft or updated timeline
- Log of hours started
- Journal reflection on planning choices

Assessment focus:

Organisation, planning, and time management.

Contributes evidence towards:

- **Project plan / timeline**
Structured planning with staged milestones.
- **Log of hours**
Initial evidence of time spent and engagement.
- **Journal / reflective log**
Reflection on planning choices and workload management.

Assessment language supported:

- Planning and organising work
- Managing time effectively

Project Studio 3: Applying Research to Your Project Decisions**Purpose**

To support learners to make sense of the research they have already undertaken and to use it to inform decisions within their own projects.

Key focus



- Applying research to real project choices
- Connecting research to aims, objectives, and outcomes
- Recognising how research shapes direction rather than just gathering information

Studio activities

- Learners briefly share one piece of research they have engaged with and how it influenced a decision they made
- Facilitated group discussion focusing on:
 - what changed as a result of the research
 - whether it confirmed, challenged, or redirected thinking
- Peer questioning to help clarify reasoning and decision-making
- Supported project time focused on *using* research (planning next steps, adjusting designs, refining approaches)

Learner outputs / evidence

- Clear examples of decisions informed by research
- Updated project plans, objectives, or approaches where relevant
- Journal entry reflecting on how research influenced thinking or direction

Assessment focus:

Using research to inform decisions and direction.

Contributes evidence towards:

- **Research record**
Evidence of research being *used*, not just collected.
- **Project plan / objectives**
Adjustments made in response to research findings.
- **Journal / reflective log**
Reflection on how research influenced decisions.

Assessment language supported:

- Using information to inform decisions
- Applying research to achieve project objectives

Project Studio 4: Skill Development & Practice

Purpose

To support sustained skill development and recognise learning through practice.

Key focus



- Practical skill-building
- Recording learning from doing
- Managing frustration and slow progress

Studio activities

- Extended project work time
- Peer skill-sharing moments (demonstrations, explanations, feedback)
- Facilitator check-ins to support problem-solving
- Discussion around practice, repetition, and improvement

Learner outputs / evidence

- Log of hours updated
- Practical evidence (photos, drafts, sketches, recordings)
- Journal entry on skill development

Assessment focus:

Sustained skill development and practical learning.

Contributes evidence towards:

- **Log of hours**
Ongoing record of practice, rehearsal, building, or making.
- **Practical evidence**
Photos, drafts, sketches, recordings, prototypes, or artefacts.
- **Journal / reflective log**
Reflection on progress, setbacks, and improvement over time.

Assessment language supported:

- Developing and applying skills
- Demonstrating learning through practice

Project Studio 5: Mid-Project Review & Adaptation

Purpose

To support structured reflection and intentional adjustment of projects.

Key focus

- Reviewing progress against aims
- Adjusting plans where needed
- Reflecting without judgement

Studio activities



- Guided mid-project review prompts
- Small-group reflection discussions
- Peer feedback on changes made
- Updating plans and timelines

Learner outputs / evidence

- Mid-project review completed
- Updated objectives or outcomes if needed
- Journal reflection on changes and learning

Assessment focus:

Reflection, review, and adaptive decision-making.

Contributes evidence towards:

- **Mid-project review**
Formal reflection on progress against aims and objectives.
- **Updated project plan / outcomes**
Evidence of justified changes or refinements.
- **Journal / reflective log**
Reflection on learning and adaptation.

Assessment language supported:

- Reviewing progress
- Reflecting on challenges and changes

Project Studio 6: Problem-Solving & Working Through Challenges

Purpose

To develop resilience, decision-making, and collaborative problem-solving.

Key focus

- Identifying blocks and barriers
- Exploring strategies and alternatives
- Knowing when and how to seek support

Studio activities

- Group problem-solving discussions using real project challenges
- Peer suggestions and shared strategies
- Facilitator-guided reflection on decisions made
- Supported work time focused on overcoming a specific challenge



Learner outputs / evidence

- Written examples of problems and solutions
- Evidence of decisions taken
- Journal reflection on challenge and response

Assessment focus:

Decision-making, resilience, and problem-solving.

Contributes evidence towards:

- **Research record / planning notes**
Evidence of alternative approaches considered.
- **Journal / reflective log**
Reflection on problems encountered and responses.
- **Written explanations or notes**
Clear examples of decisions made and why.

Assessment language supported:

- Solving problems
- Making informed decisions

Project Studio 7: Shaping Outcomes & Preparing to Communicate Learning

Purpose

To support learners in planning how they will present and communicate their project learning.

Key focus

- Matching outcomes to aims
- Choosing appropriate formats
- Audience awareness

Studio activities

- Discussion of different presentation and outcome formats
- Peer feedback on proposed approaches
- Drafting outlines, scripts, or structures
- Identifying remaining gaps in evidence

Learner outputs / evidence

- Presentation or outcome plan
- Draft materials or outlines
- Journal reflection on communication choices



Assessment focus:

Preparing to present and communicate learning effectively.

Contributes evidence towards:

- **Written work / presentation / artefact**
Drafts, outlines, scripts, or structures.
- **Project outcomes**
Alignment between aims and final outputs.
- **Journal / reflective log**
Reflection on communication choices and audience.

Assessment language supported:

- Communicating learning appropriately
- Linking outcomes to objectives

Project Studio 8: Final Reflection, Evidence Check & Completion

Purpose

To bring projects to a thoughtful close and ensure learners can articulate what they have learned.

Key focus

- Reflecting on the full project journey
- Reviewing evidence for completeness
- Recognising personal growth

Studio activities

- Guided final reflection activities
- Evidence checklist review
- Peer sharing of key learning moments
- Preparing materials for mentor and assessor review

Learner outputs / evidence

- Final reflection completed
- Journals, logs, and evidence finalised
- Learner prepared for presentation and assessment

Assessment focus:

Evaluation, conclusion, and evidence completeness.

Contributes evidence towards:



- **Final reflection / personal conclusions**
Holistic evaluation of learning journey and outcomes.
- **Complete evidence set**
Journals, logs, research, plans, and outcomes finalised.
- **Presentation or final submission**
Clear communication of project learning.

Assessment language supported:

- Drawing conclusions
 - Reflecting on learning outcomes
 - Presenting project work
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