

## Submitting a research paper

Please use the following guidelines when formatting your research paper for submission to the portal for peer assessment.

- 1. Use a sans serif font (Arial or Calibri) with 12pt body text.
- 2. Headings/subheadings 14pt
- 3. Ensure all references are checked and a bibliography is included (see Harvard Referencing guide)
- 4. Anonymise references to learners by changing the names and include a statement that qualifies that no learner's names have been used.
- 5. Upload as a pdf document
- 6. Complete the submission page: Title, Author/s, email of person submitting, Category (this will be a word defining your study i.e. Assessment, Autism, Behaviour, Lesson Planning, music Therapy). This allows those searching for papers on a specific topic easily search the database.
- 7. Write an abstract This will be used by those searching for a relevant research paper to understand the key points of the research keep the abstract to no more than 100 words.
- 8. Once submitted your paper will be peer reviewed by two independent peer reviewers. They will be assessing the paper on the following criteria;
  - a. It is well written, contains no spelling or grammatical errors and conforms to the format set out above (Acronyms are explained in full in the first instance of use).
  - b. The topic is clear and has relevance to the sector.
  - c. The study uses a defined methodology and analysis
  - d. Findings are supported by valid evidence and are clearly explained
  - e. References are accurate and the bibliography is clear and relevant to the study topic.
  - f. Appendices are clearly labelled and referenced in the text.
  - g. All learners' names are anonymised and a statement clearly explains this.