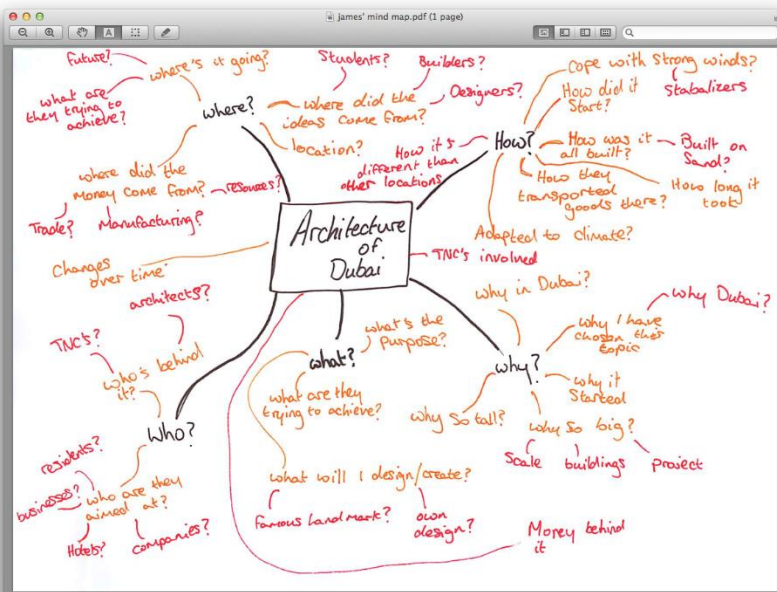


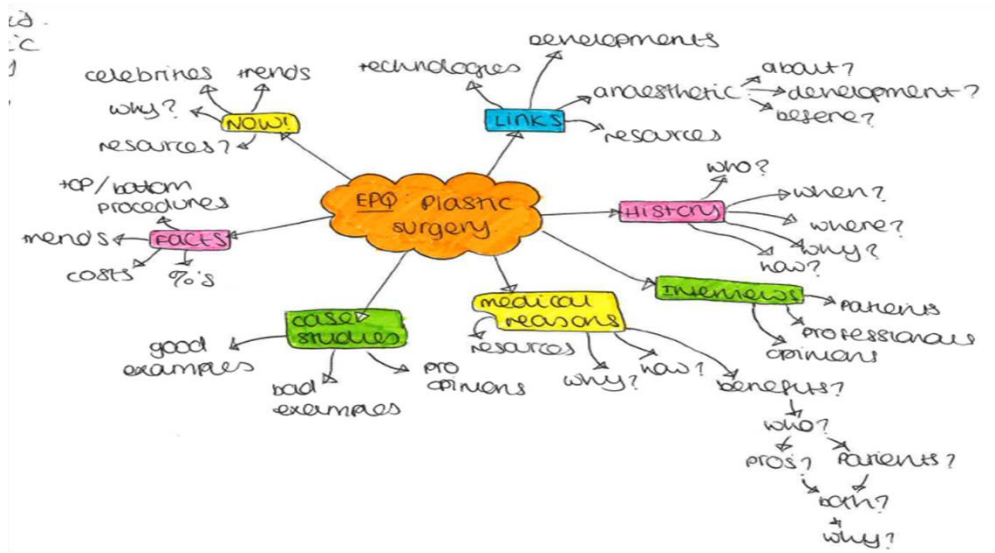
Special Interest Research Task

We hope that you are looking forward to your next phase of education or work after Year 11 beyond the Highfield School. Whatever you are going on to do, it is important that you prepare for the next stage. This research task is designed to help you think about the things that interest you and where they might lead.

If you have any questions about the task, please ask your tutor.

1. Use the information on this document to help you create 3 mind maps of different topic areas you may want to look into.
2. Choose one topic area and come up with 3 possible research tasks.
3. Use the table at the end of this document to fill in as much as possible about what you have found out about your area of special interest.





Choosing a topic

The research task will help you develop and **extend** a specific area of a personal interest or activity.

“What should I write about?”

When choosing a topic you may wish to consider:

- Do you have a favourite subject?
- Hobbies, interests, activities?
- Is there a topic you wish to find more about?
- Is there a particular career that you would like to find out more about?
- Is there a particular invention, industrial process or creative design that you would like to find more out about?

Your research task:

1. Look at the list of suggested topics below. Choose 3 that interest you and mind map them. You can choose your own too!
2. Choose one of the topic areas and come up with 3 possible questions – there are examples of past questions at the end.
3. Use resources you have available to try to find out as much information as possible in this area. Resources you can use are:
 - Online library resources
 - Websites of Professional organisations linked to your special interest
 - Online videos linked to your special interest
 - Social media linked to your special interest
 - Speaking to someone you might know linked to this area – try giving them a call to find out more!
 - Using any magazines, newspapers and books you might have at home to help you with your special interest.
 - Using documentaries and TV programmes to help with research and information – look at Catch-up and iPlayer

The following is a list of suggested topics which may be useful to generate a list of ideas.

Arts & Entertainment

Advertising and children
Architecture
Arts education
Art therapy
BBC licence fee
Celebrity culture
Censorship
Ceramics

Diversity and the media
Entertainment law
Fashion
Freedom of the Press
Identity
Images of Women
Interior design
Media and public opinion
Music

Painting
Paparazzi
Performance art
Youth culture
Photography
Political use of the media
Propaganda
Public art
Public subsidies 'the arts'
Reality TV

Environment & Construction

Affordable housing
Airport expansion
Animal welfare
Architecture
Buy-to-let market
Carbon footprints
Climate change

Community cohesion
Community safety
Congestion zones
Environmental impact
Eco-housing
Eco-towns
Energy efficiency
Greenbelt
Graffiti
Habitat destruction

High rise housing
House prices
Local planning
Out-of-town shopping
Public housing
Rainforest
destruction
Renewable energy
Road building
Road pricing
Second homes

Business & Engineering

Advertising
Banking
Biofuels
Carbon footprints
Carbon offset
Consumer rights
Corruption

Economic development
Fossil fuels
Global energy
Marketing
Money markets
Nuclear power
Pollution taxes
Product design
Cyber bullying

Quality of life
Renewable technologies
Recycling
Supermarkets
Sustainability
Sustainable materials
Wind farms
Women engineers
Identity theft
Impact of IT on society
Transplantation

Science & Technology

Animal experimentation
Cloning
Computer gaming
Control of the Internet

DNA
Data protection
Electronic tagging
Genetic engineering
Gene therapy
GM crops

Internet and terrorism
Internet safety
Medical ethics
Pesticide use
Social networking

Health, Medicine & Society

Ageing population
Age discrimination
Alternative therapies
Binge drinking
Care of the elderly
Community punishments
Community safety
Crime
CCTV
Disability issues

Discrimination
Diversity and equality
Drinking laws
Eating disorders
Gang culture
HIV/Aids
Hospital infections
Human rights
Justice system
Immigration
Mental health
Obesity
PCSOs

Parental responsibility
Pensions
Child Protection
Race discrimination
Sex discrimination
Sex education
Smoking
Substance abuse
Teenage pregnancy

Sports & Leisure

Air traffic pollution
Carbon footprints
Carbon offset
Commercialisation of sport
Congestion
Drugs in sport

Eco-tourism
Exercise
Facilities for young people
Fitness
Football
Football related violence

Gambling
Gap years
Goal-line technology
Loss of parks/fields
Money in sport
Olympics
Public transport
Tourism

Languages and Global Issues

Child labour
Drugs
Economic development
Education
Energy generation
Food production
Fossil fuels
Global warming

Globalisation
Habitat destruction
Human Rights
Homelessness
Language learning
Migration
Mines
National identity
Overpopulation
Pollution
Poverty

Religion
Slavery
Terrorism
United Nations
War and conflict
Waste water

Here are some ideas:

Art and Design

'How the development of animal art has influenced Kim Thompson and how I can take inspiration from these sources in developing animal art of my own?'

To what extent do Louise Bourgeois's Cells installation pieces reflect the concept "fear is pain"?

To what extent can we translate Angela Carter's work into a visual medium? –

Should we lessen the significance of money in society?

Computing

Are passwords an out-of-date technology for authentication?

Is Artificial Intelligence going to take over the world?

There is no such thing as privacy any more. Discuss.

Creative Writing

To what extent can the genre of 'dark fiction' allow for an exploration of feminist concerns?

How far can the concept of a school allow for an exploration of broader themes in creative writing?

Dance

To what extent has Hip Hop dance evolved and changed from its origins?

Economics

Why are transfer fees and wages increasing, and what impact are they having on the football community?

Is the payday loan market ethical and how should it be regulated?

Is digital piracy a question of ethics, law or economics?

Geography

Is hydraulic fracturing (“fracking”) a good idea for the UK?

History

Has British imperialism in Uganda done more harm than good?

How important was Bletchley Park to the Allied Victory of WW2?

Law

Is the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 deserving of the criticisms it has received?

Does the act of banning supposedly ‘dangerous’ books limit freedom of expression and can it be justified?

Should we be criminalised for what we say in the UK? Hate speech and the law.

Does the freedom of the press outweigh the people’s right to privacy?

Surveillance culture in the UK – has it gone too far?

Media/film

'Do film adaptations of Batman change society's perception of the character?'

Can the media change the perceptions of its audience?

Medical sciences

Are alternative treatments a ‘real’ alternative to conventional drug treatments in the management of pain?

To what extent can current immunological research advance cancer treatments?

Could stem cell research lead to a viable cure for Alzheimer’s disease?

To what extent can the physiological and anthropometric traits required to succeed in professional rugby union be identified?

Physics

Can we send humans into the distant future?

Does the model of the atom need to be altered so that it satisfies Quantum Mechanics?

To what extent do the principles of Quantum Mechanics affect the physical world?

Politics and Philosophy

Can Britain in the 21st Century still be regarded as a patriarchal society?

Is William Beveridge's Welfare State an appropriate model for 21st Century Britain?

To what extent does the field of aesthetics provide an understanding of the emotive qualities of music?

Could robots experience emotions?

Psychology

To what extent do we understand the relationship between olfaction and the recall of evocative experiences? How far has research gone?

Should hypnotherapy be funded by the NHS?

Sciences

Is there a case for regarding biofuels as the fuels of the future?

Special Interest Research Task

Your Name:	
Your area of interest:	
The key questions you were researching in this area:	
Why are you interested in this area?	
What resources did you use to help you research this area?	

Give any historical information about this interest.

How do we see this interest in modern society today?

What are some of the future developments in this area?

What are the related careers to this area of special interest?

Any other information you have found out about:

What other questions do you still have in this field?