

Level 3 Extended Project (9990) Candidate record form, production log and assessment record

Centre number 12430 Centre name Candidate 6

Candidate's full name Candidate 6 Candidate number 6046

Notice to candidate The work you submit for assessment must be your own. If you copy from someone else or allow another candidate to copy from you, or if you cheat in any other way, you may be disqualified.

To be completed by the candidate

1. Have you received any help or information from anyone other than your teacher(s) in the production of this work?

Yes No

2. If you have answered yes, give details below and on a separate sheet if necessary.

3. Any books, leaflets or other materials (eg DVDs, software packages, Internet information) used to help you complete this work and not clearly acknowledged in the work itself must be listed below. Presenting materials copied from books or other sources without acknowledgement will be regarded as deliberate deception.

Candidate declaration I have read and understood the above and can confirm that I have produced the attached work without assistance other than that which is acceptable under the scheme of assessment.

As part of AQA's commitment to assist students, AQA may make your coursework available on a strictly anonymous basis to teachers, examining staff and students in paper form or electronically, through the Internet or other means, for the purpose of indicating a typical mark or for other educational purposes. In the unlikely event that your coursework is made available for the purposes stated above, you may object to this at any time and we will remove the work on reasonable notice. If you have any concerns, please contact AQA.

Candidate signature

Date _____

Supervisor declaration I confirm that the candidate's work was conducted under the conditions laid out by the specification. I have authenticated the candidate's work and am satisfied that to the best of my knowledge the work produced is solely that of the candidate.

Supervisor signature

Date _____

This form should be attached to the candidate's work and retained at the centre or sent to the moderator as required

Record of marks

Candidate's full name

Candidate 6

Candidate number

6046

To be completed by the supervisor

Marks must be awarded in accordance with the instructions and criteria in section 2.5.2 of the specification.

Summary information to show how the marks have been awarded should be given in the spaces below in addition to comments in other pages of this document and any supporting information in the form of annotations on the candidate's work.

Skill area	Maximum mark	Mark awarded	Supervisor's supporting statement
A01 Manage	10	9	Candidate 6 made excellent use of her time and resources available, had a contingency plan in case of being unable to contact the support group, and had clear aims throughout, which she adapted and reflected on throughout the process.
A02 Use resources	10	8	Excellent use of research, especially during Section 2 of the report. She had aimed to conduct primary research but when this did not happen she continued to make use of other research methods. She reflects well on this through the log.
A03 Develop and realise	20	18	Excellent realisation of the project through analysis and communication of research. Changes made throughout the planning and writing process are evident and benefit the report.
A04 Review	10	9	Nevayka excellently and honestly reflects on different aspects of the process, such as using more case studies and journal articles to further her research, and the evaluation of her title.
Total	50	44	

Concluding comments

Candidate 6 has been an excellent student throughout the project. She has been proactive in communicating ideas and arranging meetings, been very reflective in her progress, and has shown a high level of skill in finding appropriate research and blending it together throughout the report. Her effective planning shines through the report and although she acknowledged that there were improvements to be made during the research process, they did not impact negatively on the report. Her passion and interest in the topic was key to this being a fascinating study to read.

Outline details of taught skills (specification 2.3 The Taught element of the Extended Project qualification) Record here details of relevant skills taught in a class/group and details of relevant skills taught individually to this candidate as described in the specification. Continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

Supervisor declaration I confirm that no work assessed for the award of the marks above is also to be submitted, or has been submitted, for any other accredited qualification(s).

Supervisor signature

Date _____

Contents

Candidate's full name

Candidate 6

Candidate number

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To be completed by the candidate

Extended Project working title

Planned form of project

Either written report

Or

and accompanying written report

This document consists of the pages listed below. Additional journal material, planning evidence, research evidence, presentation evidence and review material may be added.

Page	Title	Date completed
1	Candidate declaration	
2	Record of marks	
3	Contents	
4	Record of initial planning	
5 - 7	Project proposal and approval (Parts A, B and C)	
8	Planning review	
9	Mid-project review	
10	End-of-project review	
11	Summary	
12 - 13	Presentation record (Parts A and B)	
14	Reflection	

Is this extended project part of a group project?

No

Yes

If 'Yes', give brief details

Extended Project final title

Record of initial planning

Candidate's full name

Candidate 6

Candidate number

6046

To be completed by the candidate. This page records initial meeting(s) with your supervisor to agree your project proposal.

Your first idea for topic/title

How has treatment, both medically and socially, for GID sufferers changed since first recognised in the UK?

Your first ideas for research and development of your project

Research aims of my project

- What is Gender Identity disorder?
- What are the psychological and biological explanations experts have come up with?
- What kind of treatment is offered to transgenders?
 - What changes have been made in diagnosing the illness since first recognised?
 - Identify how different cultures view as well as treat transgenders and whether such opinions have changed over time?

Methods of research

Having been recognised by not only psychologists but also physicians so recently means the resources I use must be reliable enough to come to a conclusion for each of my aims.

Possible methods for secondary research:

- Journal articles can help me obtain more accurate information on the psychological and biological explanations. 'Gender Dysphoria and Gender Change in Androgen Insensitivity or Micropenis' by Tom Mazer is an example of a journal article suited to my topic
- The exploration of case studies, I believe can give me in depth information on ones particularly journey of the transition between genders. The fourth edition for 'Psychology A2 for AQA' by Collins is an example of where such case studies can be found.
- Despite the likely possibility of information being unreliable, the internet can definitely add to the bulk of my research, bringing a more efficient way of gathering research. However when doing so, I would be fully aware that information can be misleading and often subject to the writers opinion therefore tainting the reliability of my research.

Secondary research will most certainly make up the bulk of my research simply due to the fact that collecting enough information as an individual and analysing it would bring an immense work load. Being extremely passionate about my topic, I am eager conduct some primary research which could give me a better understanding of the disorder and how we as a society cater to their needs.

Possible methods of primary research:

- Contacting support groups such as 'Mermaids' a "Family and individual support for teenagers and children with gender identity issues" (www.mermaidsuk.org.uk/). By possibly interviewing the organizer of the support group, I could understand the tools such groups may use in order to aid the process of transitioning from one gender to the other. Although I have found that the website supports those who would like a gender reassignment surgery due to their sexual orientation, so it's vital that I do not confuse the different reasons for why people go for such drastic measures.
- With contacting support groups I would also like to speak to a sufferer of gender identity disorder in order to gain insight as to how transgenders' are being treated both medically and socially. However I am fully aware that when interviewing people with gender identity disorder, information collected can be subjective therefore I believe it is important for me to not rely on the results so heavily.

Your supervisor's main comments and advice

My supervisor has agreed with me that information gained by a sufferer can be subject to their opinion and that interviewing an individual is not representative of all gender identity disorder sufferers. It was also made clear that conducting primary research can be difficult simply due to logistics; is it possible to interview someone about such a sensitive topic?, where would I conduct the interview?. Having said that I will assess my stance on whether I can conduct primary research as I progress with my project. Therefore my supervisor advised me to make clear of the implication involved with conducting primary research. Furthermore in regards to the question I am posing, my supervisor feels that my aims are leaving the title on an unfinished note thus needs a concluding aim to round off my research project.

Changes, clarifications or additions you have made as a result of your discussion with your supervisor

Having discussed the concerns involved with carrying out primary research it needs to be made clear that:

- When holding interviews I must conduct several otherwise results would prove invalid as would not depict all sufferers of gender identity disorder.
- Questions asked would naturally be the same for all interviewees.
- Also the interviewing of sufferers must be planned to the letter with regards to, location and whether or not the interviewee is comfortable with the situation.

I also must be aware of the fact that I may not be able to undertake primary research thus must compensate for that research, using other sources of information

In addition to the changes on my research methods I have decided to add one further aim to finalize the question I am proposing of:

- To what extent is treatment, both medically and socially, being given to those who suffer with Gender Identity disorder? I believe this aim will enable me to find out why some still have a strict view upon such a controversial yet important issue and whether it clouds their judgement when offering treatment. And for that reason it is crucial for me as well as sufferers to expose the truth behind 'gender'

'Supervisor signature

Date _____

Project proposal part A

Candidate's full name

Candidate 6

Candidate number

6046

To be completed by the candidate

Title of the Extended Project

Present the topic to be researched in the form of a short statement/question/hypothesis with clear focus.

How has treatment of those who suffer with Gender Identity disorder, both medically and socially, changed since first recognised?

Provide a brief outline, based upon page 4 of this document, of

- the researched or activity/task to be carried out and sources to be consulted

Having planned and clarified my aims, I will now begin to research each aim using the previously mentioned resources:

- Journal articles /Case studies ensuring to colour code pieces of information I come across according to what aim it is mostly targeted towards. By using such a technique, I can assure that my research is not only effective but efficient as time is key.
- The Internet, making sure that I take the information found with a pinch of salt. Also scanning through large pieces of text and extracting the essential facts but making certain of the fact that I have enough research to create an analytical essay with a powerful argument.
- Interviews with both support group leaders and Gender Identity Disorder sufferers

- the courses of study or area(s) of personal interest to which the topic relates

Gender Identity disorder is most certainly a topic I am passionate about, with transgenders being a minority that have been highly misunderstood since the illness was first seen, it is important to educate more people about it. Analysing the psychological effects of the disorder is an aspect which truly appeals to me because it exemplifies how the illness goes beyond the feeling of simply wanting to be of the opposite gender. However as an aspiring doctor the biological side of the disorder, of possible biological explanations and the extreme procedure of gender reassignment surgery, is definitely an aspect of my topic I would like to explore. Furthermore having none of my subjects cover such a topic truly enhances my interest into Gender Identity Disorder.

- your proposed action

- Must contact 'Mermaids' informing them of who I am and what my project consists of, stressing the importance of my aims to exemplify my desire to expose as well as question the treatment and the impact it leaves on Gender Identity Disorder Sufferers. However if I am unable to undertake such research, will refer to the results found from interviews conducted by others(which can be found using the sources mentioned above)
- Also as using books, journal articles and case studies make up a large portion of my resources I have decided to enquire about applying for a temporary membership to Brunel's University library to widen my research.

Provide details of the courses that you are currently studying

Qualification Type	Subject
<i>e.g. GCE AS/A, Applied GCE AS/A, Diploma L3, VRQ, Modern Apprenticeship, BTEC</i>	<i>e.g. Mathematics, English, Health, Spanish, ICT</i>
GCE OCR	Biology
GCE Edexcel	Chemistry
GCE Edexcel	Mathematics
GCE Edexcel	History

Candidate declaration I certify that I have read and understood AQA's Regulations relating to unfair practice as set out in the notice to candidates below.

Notice to candidate You must not take part in any unfair practice in the preparation of project work required for assessment and you must understand that to present material copied directly from book or any other sources without acknowledgment will be regarded as deliberate deception. If you use or attempt to use any unfair practice you will be reported to AQA. If AQA is satisfied that you have committed an offence you may be disqualified from all subjects.

Candidate signature

Date

Project proposal part B

Candidate's full name

Candidate number

Candidate 6

6046

To be completed by the supervisor. Please comment below on the validity and feasibility of the proposal (project proposal Part A) as an Extended Project (specification 2.4).

	Supervisor's comments
Comment on the clarity and focus of the title chosen	Candidate 6 started out with a very good idea and the focus has become clearer as she has discussed issues with myself and the co-ordinator. She needs to ensure she sifts through articles in order to find relevant information for her focus.
Indicate the relation to, and development/extension outside of, the main course(s) of study or interest (specification 1.2)	This links to Candidate 6's interest in Biology and her ambition to become a doctor. She will also research into the historical background of people with this disorder, and this may cross over with some time periods she may study in History.
Comment on the suitability of the proposed initial sources and research base	Candidate 6 has found some initial solid pieces of critical analysis, but this is an area of caution which she is aware of. She will have access to online journal articles through Athens which will help broaden the scope of her research.
Confirm that the project is feasible in the proposed timescale and/or indicate any potential difficulties	The main difficulty is obtaining primary research through the Mermaids charity - this is a priority for her to get in touch and organise an appointment. There should be no other issues in terms of completing work within the timeframe.
Outline the scope to produce a project that meets the assessment objectives (specification 2.5.3)	The project definitely has scope for all objectives to be met. She has demonstrated time management skills and ability to act on feedback and reflect on her work; she will hopefully gain some primary evidence which she will then analyse, and will also be merging this with her research; and will complete a detailed plan before starting to write the essay. She will be amending the plan depending on whether she has the chance to speak to the support group. She will then write the document and review the process.
Indicate proposed form and date of the presentation	Powerpoint presentation to supervisor, co-ordinator and small audience in October 2012

Indicate the expected format of the project product that will be submitted for assessment

- Long written report
- Live performance (e.g. music, drama, theatre, substantial presentation) plus written report
- Electronic format (e.g. CD, DVD, video, program) plus written report
- Artefact (e.g. prototype, model, artwork) plus written report

Is the project a contribution to a group exercise? YES NO

If Yes, confirm that there is a defined individual contribution by the candidate (specification 2.5.1 **Group Work**) YES NO

List other group members below.

Candidate No. _____ Candidate Name _____

Candidate No. _____ Candidate Name _____

Candidate No. _____ Candidate Name _____

Supervisor signature

Date 19-04-12

Project approval part C

Candidate's full name

Candidate 6

Candidate number

6046

Supervisor's full name

To be completed by the centre coordinator

Comment below on the feasibility and acceptability of the proposal (project proposal parts A & B) as an Extended Project (specification 1.4)

Centre coordinator's comments

This sounds like a very interesting topic, and Candidate 6's passion for the area shines through in her planning proposal. As Nevakyha has indicated, the implications of carrying out primary research are vast, however I am confident that Candidate 6 will be able to make use of secondary sources also to guide her search to answer the question she poses.

I would consider ensuring that whilst it is useful to introduce the disorder and discuss the explanations for it, the main question is regarding the treatment and therefore the bulk of the report should be discussing this and answering the title of her project.

Approved

Approved subject to the implementation of the centre coordinator's recommendations

Resubmission required

Coordinator's full name

Coordinator signature

Date

Planning review

Candidate's full name

Candidate 6

Candidate number

6046

To be completed by the candidate. This page records your outline plan at the start of your work.

Outline the next steps in your planned research/initial development

Having gotten in contact with Mermaids via email explaining the nature of my project and my desire to gain real insight into Gender Identity Disorder, I am currently awaiting a confirmation. However Mermaids were able to refer me to two other websites, The Gender Trust gendertrust (www.gires.org.uk) and Gendys (www.gender.org.uk/gendys/). which may be able to help with my research. Not only is this giving me a wider range of resources, it is also allowing me to look into different age groups and how age is a major factor in the different reactions GID sufferers have.

As I am fully aware of the possibility of not being able to conduct primary research and I feel a contingency plan is needed to ensure I still have the body of my research. This will consist of bulking up my research with looking into case studies analyzing those who have undergone any sort of treatment and the psychological as well as emotional impact it has had on their lives. The 'David Reimer' case study is one of the many I intend to look into, as it exemplifies the controversial treatment that was given to GID sufferers. In turn this will allow me to make comparisons on the treatments available during different time periods. To further my research I believe I could gather a different perspective if I was to interview a specialist in GID on the long treatment process of gender reassignment and how they decide who is eligible. However it may be difficult to interview a GID specialist hence why I am looking into contacting the only medical centre in the UK that specializes in helping children with gender variance, the gender identity service at Tavistock and Portman NHS Foundation Trust.

Along with my desired primary research, I have found other sources such as Pubmed (www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed) and haven't gotten access to Brunel's university library, now have access to the case studies which will not only act as a main source of information but also deepen my understanding of GID. Furthermore it is essential that I distribute all my resources equally to my aims and have decided that for analyzing how different cultures perceive GID sufferers, documentaries may act as the most efficient and ethically way of finding such information. 'Transgenders:Pakistan's open secret' is one of the many documentaries which not only covers the way Pakistani culture portray transgenders but also the extreme measures GID sufferers take in order to fulfill their desired gender.

Your supervisor's main comments and advice

My supervisor feels I have been proactive in obtaining membership at Brunel university library, contacting Mermaids in a sensitive manner, and finding various case studies and documentary programmes to help further my research. We discussed what I should do in the case of being unable to speak to someone from Mermaids directly, in terms of looking more deeply into case studies, and I have acted on that advice by ensuring there are specific case studies and documentaries I can draw on if I cannot obtain primary research. I have also been advised to set a time limit in order to hear back from Mermaids; this would ensure I don't leave it too late to chase them up or move onto my other research. I also needs to leave enough time to analyse the information from any interviews I conduct, making sure I can still blend the findings from any interviews into my research. Furthermore I now need to make sure I start thoroughly researching the topic which will help to inform any questions she asks in interviews.

Changes, clarifications or additions you have made as a result of your discussion with your supervisor and/or the comments from your centre coordinator

In regards to contacting Mermaids I plan to wait a further week before I rule out conducting my primary research with them. However in the mean time I intend to contact other GID centres and support groups to ensure that I do not completely rely on only one primary research source. Regardless of such outcome, I will need to analyse interviews, of GID sufferers, GID specialists or councillors, conducted by other researches to ensure that I still have a unique perspective on the issue. It is vital that I stress the importance of how despite the fact that case studies and interviews provide an in depth view of a GID sufferer, it cannot be classified as a representation of all sufferers and therefore I must analyse a wider range of cases. However I believe exploring a range of case studies can be complemented by research found via other sources. My supervisor also mentioned that I haven't clearly stated whether I am looking into the treatment of children, adults or even both. Thus I would like to refine my question to target GID sufferers on a whole and possibly the differences in the diagnosis and treatment given between different age groups.

Supervisor signature

Date

Mid-project review

Candidate's full name

Candidate 6

Candidate number

6046

To be completed by the candidate. This page records your outline plan about half-way through your work.

Outline the successes, failures, additions and/or changes you made as you followed your plan at start of project

Having initially made a detailed plan at each stage on what I must achieve, my targets were much more easily met, being aware of what is needed to be done to fulfil each aim. I was able to recognise which resources were best for my topic, in my case, case studies and internet research. Due to my topic being relatively new, I needed to make sure I didn't waste too much time trying to find books and make sure the body of my research came from other sources which are more likely to have it. I also made sure that I had a contingency plan in case my desired primary research fell through. It was vital that I didn't let my research suffer due to small setbacks hence why I listed enough resources to produce in depth research.

At the beginning of my project I had the intention of getting into contact with the co-ordinator of 'Mermaids' a support group for transgenders and discover exactly the kind of treatment, apparent from the medical ones, that is available and if they thought it was sufficient. However after writing an email to several support groups explaining the nature of my project and receiving no response, I was forced to follow my contingency plan. Despite the fact that I had given myself enough amount of time to organise this, it seemed I should have organised in much more advance. Due to this I decided to fill this gap with research that I could obtain from case studies which would also give me the kind of treatment given in the eyes of a patient.

Also when looking at how different cultures give medical as well as social treatment, I need to make sure I mention the reasons behind this. For example some countries treatment plans for transgenders may be ineffective due to discrimination or financial reasons and I believe it is important to note which reason this is otherwise it could cause a misconception about a particular country

Furthermore whilst undertaking my research I found that my question of 'How has treatment for Gender Identity Disorder sufferers, both medically and socially, changed since first recognised?' was difficult to fully answer. The more research I conducted the more obvious it became that answering my question was going to be difficult simply due to the fact that the topic is relatively new and that assessing the change of treatment since first recognised is very little. Hence why I came to the decision of changing my question to my last aim of 'To what extent is treatment, both medically and socially, being given to those who suffer with Gender Identity disorder?' I feel that this question will enable my report to become more about analysis and less about recalling the facts.

Outline your planned steps to complete your project

Having completed a substantial amount of research, I intend to make a plan of the structure of my report to ensure that I know the direction in which I want to write it. I believe this will make a substantial difference especially when there is more clarity with what I want to write. Furthermore I feel that it is also time to try and condense this information and pick out key facts which I will use in my presentation. Planning early will mean that I can think about which pieces of information will answer my question in the most concise manner. Also having changed my question I need to ensure I can make links with my new question and the research I have done.

Your supervisor's main comments and advice at this stage

My supervisor feels that I have made a lot of progres in terms of my research, and have a lot of material now to sift through and select which is the most important in order to answer my question. I am currently working on a plan which we have discussed, and I have notified my supervisor of the change in my title, which came about as a result of my research. My superviosr believes that I have reflected well on my work so far, amending aspects according to both mine and my supervisor's constructive criticism. Having tried contacting other organisations apart from the main one I was aiming for, my success with my contingency plan has been admired by my supervisor, showing that I have not let the lack of primary research slow me down. I have conducted a wide range of research across all the different aims, and it helped to have the focused aims I initially came up with in order to help structure my assignment. When structuring my essay my superviosr feels that it is important to emphasise certain sections rather than spreading out the information evenly. My supervisor believes I am now in a position where I can finalise my plan and get started on the writing up of the research.

Having spoken to my supervisor I am also keen to draw up a professional bibliography, and we have discussed the use of appendices in the report, which I will consider as part of the final plan. Having read through some of the research notes, my supervisor feels this will be an interesting, engaging and worthwhile project.

Changes, clarifications or additions you have made as a result of your discussion with your supervisor at this stage

Scanning through my research my supervisor feels that there is a lot of information, some of which may be more relevant than others, hence why it is important that I highlight the facts I plan to use for not only my report but my presentation too. I must ensure that the information selected can be linked to my new question, in turn answering it. Also having discussed the importance of a bibliography I have decided to compare my current bibliography with that of a professional one to see whether there are any amendments that can be made to better my project. In regards to writing my report, I will ensure that I focus more on the aims involving the treatment, rather than the diagnosis. Despite the fact that the aims involving diagnosis is not directly linked with the treatment given, it is vital I mention how correctly diagnosing the patient is what determines the quality of treatment.

Supervisor signature

Date

End-of-project review

Candidate's full name

Candidate 6

Candidate number

6046

To be completed by the candidate. This page records the (near) completion of your project product.

Outline the successes, failures, additions and/or changes you made as you followed the plan in your mid-project review

Successes

Prior to writing up my report I carefully highlighted and organised my information into the appropriate aims which allowed me to write up my report efficiently. Not having to search through piles of research meant that I could also direct my report in the clear direction of answering my questions. I had my concerns about writing too much about the causes of GID and therefore not being able to link it within my question however I found that whilst writing it I was able to discuss the criticisms for each theory and thus evaluate the significance of it. This then allowed me to link the weakness of the theories which meant the medical treatment suffered in the process. I believe this was a major success as I was able to link in all aspects of my writing into answering my question. Moreover I ensured that all the images I used were all relevant and referenced correctly.

Failures

However whilst writing up my report I found that trying to direct my information to both medical and social treatment was an enormous task. With both having a large amount of information and already seeing how long my report was going to be with simply just medical treatment, I decided to focus my writing on just the medical treatment. By changing the focus of my question I was able to give a more clear and concise argument to my question. My question now stands at "To what extent is medical treatment being given to those who suffer with Gender Identity disorder in the UK?". In addition to this change I decided to not include my aim of 'Identify how different cultures view as well as treat transgenders and whether such opinions have changed over time?'. It seemed that the aim was as relevant to my new question as the others were and if I was to undertake this aim it would open a whole new can of worms where I would have to look into the facilities, culture, and mentalities of other countries. Thus I felt that it would be best if I simply focus my report on the treatment in the UK.

Outline any additional advice or comment that you received from your supervisor during this final stage

My supervisor is impressed with the way I have reflected on my aims and the change in focus on my report. Because I was evaluating my report as I was going along, my supervisor feels that this allowed me to think about all aims rather than the ones which focus on treatment when writing the report. Whilst writing my report, I was advised to not only organise my notes but cut them down as it would be difficult to search through them ensuring to pick out key facts. My supervisor also mentioned that the biological and psychological causes seemed too long and needed to be more direct and to the point. Overall my supervisor felt that it is a fascinating report and she learned a lot from it about the disorder.

Changes, clarifications or additions you made as a result of discussion with your supervisor in this final stage

Based on my supervisor's comments, I must shorten my sections on causes of Gender Identity Disorder as my report is well over the word limit. I decided that it would make sense for me to have the same number of reasons for biological and psychological and therefore cut each section down to having two theories which support each argument. Furthermore I shaved off some words from other sections, realising that again some of my points were not needed. In terms of my conclusion, I have re-written it so that I round off all my research, weighing up to what extent treatment is being given to GID sufferers in the UK.

Supervisor signature

Date _____

Summary

Candidate's full name

Candidate 6

Candidate number

6046

To be completed by the candidate. This page records the nature of your project product (abstract).

Outline (50 – 150 words) the nature of your final product, its main content and your conclusion

At the beginning of my project I had written detailed aims on how I was going to conduct my research and felt that it would create a solid foundation for my project. And thus felt that these aims would be fitting for organising my report into different sections. I began with my introduction which included what GID was and its symptoms which varied between children and adults. I then delved into the possible causes of GID, looking at biology and psychology and weighing up the arguments for both. This enabled me to assess the importance of knowing the causes and its impact on medical treatment for GID. I felt that the causes were a good way to ease into the bulk of my report which is medical treatment. With this I mentioned the changes made in treatment since first recognised which enabled me to compare the progress the UK has made in providing treatment. Furthermore I discussed in detail the treatment plans that are offered and the criticisms which challenge each. Rounding off my report, I concluded that the UK is giving the best treatment they can, given the facts that they know and the resources that they have

Presentation record part A

Candidate's full name

Candidate 6

Candidate number

6046

To be completed by the candidate. This page records your presentation and its preparation.

Planned nature of your presentation (e.g. timing, audience, use of visual aids, slides, use of notes, etc.)

I have decided to make a powerpoint presentation which I feel can be engaging yet informative aswell. I believe that it is important that there is not too much information on each slide and rather I talk about my topic instead. With this, my presentation will mostly act as a visual aid including images appropriate to what I am talking about. Prior to getting to the core of my content I plan to show a series of images of either transgendered or non transgendered people and ask the audience which one they think the person is. Following this activity, I will state my point of the amount of judgment that they face and how mdecial treatment will lead to better social treatment. I strongly believe that this audience interaction will help me command their attention and draw them into my topic. Furthermore I intend to keep my presenation at a roughly 6-8 minutes as it will give me enough time to demonstrate my findings without overloading the audience with too much information. It is vital that I constantly make eye contact with the audience but as a safety net, I plan to make cue cards made up of bullet point on briefly what I wil say for each slide.

Briefly list the main content of your presentation

Slide 1-7

My introduction which will consist of showing the audience a series of images where they will have to guess whether they think the person is transsexual or non-transsexual. The aim of this is to show the audience how snap judgements are made on everyone, but GID sufferers, such judgments force them into a labels they don't want to be in.

Slide 8

Definition of GID

Slide 9

Clarifying any confusion with terms such as transsexual and transvestite. I will also verbally mention some of the symptoms of GID.

Slide 10

Mention one of the biological causes for GID with a visual appropriate to the cause

Slide 11

Exhibit another example of a biological cause with a visual to match

Slide 12

Introduce the idea of psychology possibly explaining the cause of GID

Slide 13

Support the psychological aspect of GID with another theory.

Slide 14

Discuss the treatment that is offered.

Slide 15-16

Discuss the challenges which face the current treatment but also what stops treatment from being improved.

Slide 17

Reflection on my project and the high and lows I have encountered.

Changes, clarifications or additions you made as a result of rehearsal and/or discussion with your supervisor

Having practiced this presentation in front of my supervisor, she feels that the timing is far too long and therefore need to cut down the number of slides. With this, I have decided to cut down the number of pictures I show to the audience in my introduction. I have reduced this from six pictures to just four. Furthermore I felt that it would be suffice to mention one theory supporting biological and one theory supporting psychologically. My supervisor felt that the showing of images at the beginning would grab attention and allow me to interact with the audience. She also suggested to possibly adding in a role play when discussing treatment. The role play would have included a scenario of a GID sufferer going through the countless stages of treatment exemplifying the number of years it takes. However having further discussed this with my supervisor I feel with the short time I have to prepare such a role play, it would be best to stick to my original plan.

Presentation record part B

Candidate's full name

Candidate number

Candidate 6

6046

To be completed by the supervisor. Record and comment below on the delivery of the presentation (specification 2.5.1 presentation)

	Supervisor's record / comments
The nature of the audience (include numbers of staff, students and others present)	The audience comprised of the other EPQ students, prospective new EPQ students, supervisors and the Head Teacher
The nature of the presentation (include use of notes, use of display items, and use of presentation software)	The PowerPoint presentation was appropriate for the topic and audience, and Candidate 6 had made an effort to make it engaging and not overly wordy for the audience. She had an interactive activity at the beginning, where she showed pictures of different people and asked the audience to identify who were transgendered. This was an engaging activity that also surprised audience members.
Comment on the content and delivery of the presentation	The content focused on the different aims Candidate 6 had identified, and she very clearly, and without the use of notes, was able to talk passionately and clearly about the different findings throughout the report. She kept to time and did not waffle or go off on tangents.
Comment on the response of the candidate to questions that demonstrated understanding and grasp of the project and/or its production (give examples where appropriate).	I asked Candidate 6 to clarify her own opinions on whether biological or psychological explanations were more justifiable for why certain people are transgendered. She clearly referred to some of the reasons for and against, and concluded that there were elements of both that she agreed with but she would need to conduct further research in order to fully agree with one or the other. I also asked her about the numbers of people who are diagnosed with the disorder, and she was able to provide the information about numbers increasing in recent years, with a disclaimer that evidence suggests more people are coming forward to obtain treatment as it improves and as the disorder becomes less taboo in society, which could be the reason why numbers have increased. She was clear and concise in her answers.
Outline the nature of any additional presentation evidence that the candidate might add (e.g. speaker notes, handouts, presentation slides, recording).	No additional resources/evidence were used.

Supervisor signature

Date

Reflection

Candidate's full name

Candidate 6

Candidate number

6046

To be completed by the candidate. This page records your own evaluation when you have completed your project product and given your presentation.

Briefly summarise your main learning from completing this project. You might include new knowledge or expertise that you enjoy or find valuable, a consideration of your planning and organisation, changes you would make if you undertook such work again, advice you would give to others undertaking such a project.

What went well

I found that because of my passion and curiosity for the almost 'taboo' topic, researching and writing the report was not as difficult as first anticipated. Whilst researching I found that I became more and more interested with the topic and thus making the producing of my entire project much easier. Furthermore despite being wary of whether I would be able to keep up with my deadlines, I found that I was able to keep on top of the tasks ahead. Prioritising my work and planning ahead meant that I knew exactly what needed to be done and when. This allowed me to gather my research more easily when it came down to writing my report and creating my presentation.

From the beginning of my project, I had made detailed aims to ensure I knew exactly what I was researching. I also identified which methods of research would be most appropriate to my topic considering factors such as how recent it is and where I could gather impartial information on the medical treatment provided for GID sufferers. My step-by-step plans also made the next stages of my research much simpler. This, I feel, made a strong foundation for my entire project.

What would make my project better and the changes I would make to do so.

At the beginning of project I felt that obtaining primary research would add a lot of weight to my argument, getting a first hand perspective on how actual patients view the treatment provided for them. I intended to contact support groups for transgenderd people such as 'Mermaids' and possibly talk to either the co-ordinator or even a sufferer. Despite having sent an email to more than one support group, I unfortunately received no replies. I understand how it is a sensitive topic and thus gaining primary research would be difficult. In the future I would try to contact such support groups more in advance therefore giving me a chance to not only contact more support groups but try use different methods of getting in touch with them such as through telephone or personally going to them.

Furthermore because of the disorder being relatively recent, the books available were limited. At the start of my project I identified that case studies and journals would be my greatest resource however I found that a lot of my research came from the internet and school psychology textbooks which covers this topic in the syllabus. I feel that if I had used more case studies and journals, I may have gotten more information on what actual patients think of the treatment provided; something which could have filled the gap of not conducting primary research. With more time I feel that I would have been able to sieve through case studies and journals, picking out the key points.

What skills I gained and how this will help me in university?

What attracted me to undertaking EPQ was the fact that I would be able to independantly research a topic of my choice. From this experience I became more of an autonomous learner and understood the importance of it. This becomes a vital skill at university where teachers support is limited. Despite having a supervisor to consult with about my project, I was able to not only plan but take my initiative in finding ways of gathering my research together so that I have a clear and consise report. I also felt that I was able to be creative when presenting my findings to my fellow peers and teachers which again allowed me to become more reliable and organised with my time and research. My presentation also allowed me to exhibit my findings but also my passion, engaging the audience, and enhancing my public speaking skills. Such skills, I believe, will allow me to strive in university where you take lead in your own learning.

What were the stumbling points and how did I overcome them

My main stumbling point of my project was the making of my question. Originally I my question stood at 'How has treatment, both medically and socially, for GID suffers changed since first recognised in the UK?' However as I progressed with my research, I found that because it is a disorder that only came to light recently, I felt evaluating the changes in treatment since first recognised would be minor. I therefore changed my question to 'To what extent is

treatment, both medically and socially, being given to those who suffer with Gender Identity disorder?' Unfortunately whilst researching I found that just delving into medical treatment was more than overwhelming in terms of the amount of information. I felt that it would be appropriate to redirect my question to 'To what extent is medical treatment being given to those who suffer with Gender Identity disorder?' I feel that this was the right decision to make because it would be too difficult to focus on both medical and social treatment. By changing my question, I would be able to write a much more analytical report which delves into one aspect of treatment. Despite changing my question numerous times, I do believe that it was the best choice to make because it benefitted me when presenting my findings. In addition to the changes I made to my question, I found that my aim of 'Identify how different cultures not only view but treat transgender and whether such opinions changed over time' was far too much to research. Whilst compiling my report I found that the other aims were providing a sufficient argument for my question. This aim seemed the most irrelevant in comparison to my other aims. For this reason, I chose to discard this aim.

My greatest achievement

My greatest achievement is having the privilege of being asked to send my report to an actual GID sufferer. I feel that it was a real honour for my report to act as an informative piece of information in the real world because it was solely accomplished by my own efforts. Furthermore I felt that my presentation went well and having engaged the audience with what I was saying but also my topic itself, I believe I emphasised the importance in providing quality medical treatment for GID sufferers.

Advice to prospective students

I believe that the single most important thing about undertaking the Extended Project Qualification is to have a true passion in the topic they chose to research. Simply having that interest will make them want to conduct in depth research and such feelings will be translated when they present their findings to an audience. It is vital that they think long and hard about their question because changing it half way through their project could delay any intended plans. I also feel that planning is key and keeping up with deadlines will ensure that they can gather their research effectively which they will use when it comes down to completing their final product.