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| MA dissertation research proposal template  **You do not have to use this form for your research proposal but you should cover all the areas listed below in your proposal – in whichever format you choose to present it.** | |
| Focus on research topic | The research topic is focused on finding out the challenges teachers see when teaching students with autism. |
| Rationale for your research | This research will explore not only the challenges teachers face when working with students on the autism spectrum in the mainstream setting but also the notion they have about teaching such individuals.  Also, what support do they need to support students pedagogy and attainment. Do they get enough training and if so, how often and by who? Include it earlier on, then include findings from the literature |
| Research question or questions (these may change) | What do teachers see as challenges when working with students on the autism spectrum in the mainstream setting and the support they require? |
| Initial review of relevant literature | . NAS (2016)  I don’t understand this part. |
| Methodology (e.g. quantitative/qualitative/mixed methods/action research/case study…. including an explanation of why your choice of methodology is appropriate for your research topic | Qualitative method.  This method suggests that knowledge is interpretive and constructed by people in action (Denzin and Lincoln, 2000).  This type of method looks to review existing practice principles, why they are the way they are and if they need to be improved or dismantled. Since by research question is to find out the challenges teachers face when working with autistic individuals and the support they require, I think this method is appropriate. |
| Sample and access to the setting (Who will you do the research with)? | 5 Teachers, SENCO does work with mainstream teachers.  It is pivotal to select participators who have got the insight, knowledge and experience on the given research topic (Esterberg 2002). |
| Reflection on subjectivity.  What is my position in relation to the research question or sample? | As a learning support work, I have witnessed first hand the struggles and challenges teachers encounter when working with students who have autism. I think a lot of teachers lack training especially in mainstream settings and quite often they let teaching assistants to deal with autistic students. |
| Methods (interviews, observations, questionnaires, observations, etc.) | Formal interviews and informal conversations with practitioners  Through questioning and discussions, respondents can give their understanding of the social phenomena (Silverman, 2015). |
| Ethical considerations | Ethical considerations are crucial when carrying out any research. The research will follow the BERA ethical guidelines (2018), which were designed to support educational researchers. All participants must be made aware why the research is being conducted and whatever they say will be kept confidential. |
| Data analysis (How will you analyse the data?) | Data will be analysed through the interviews carried out by examining themes that keep popping up. The use of inductive and deductive method as an approach of completing the thematic analysis. |
| Timeline (approximate) | Having regular discussions with my supervisors for the next two months  April/May   * Begin to write the literature review * Arrange and conduct interviews   May/June   * Write up my findings * Send the draft to my supervisor for proof reading * Submission |
| References |  |