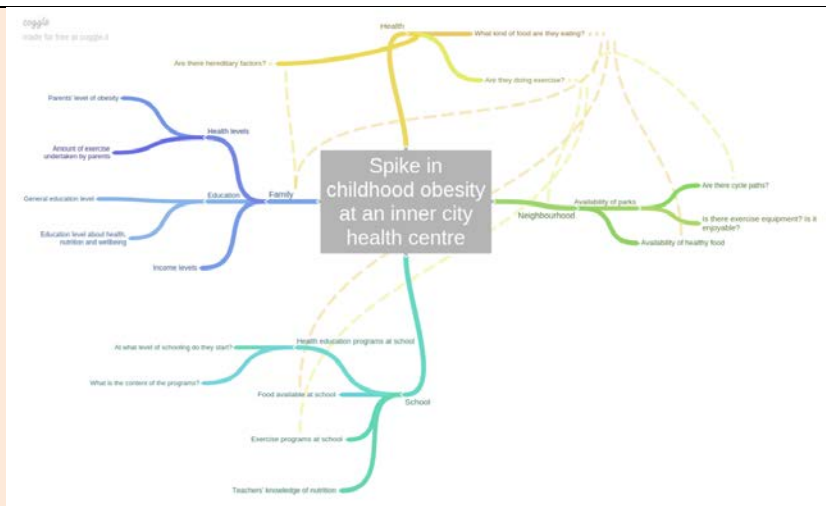


Answer 2 with marker's comments

Problem-solving Skills for University Success Summative Peer Assignment		
Chose a problem	Imagine you work at an inner city health centre. Over half of the population surrounding your health centre are in the lowest 25% of the population in terms of income, and a significant portion live in government housing. There are also a large number of patients at your health centre who are recent immigrants. When going back over patient records for the last 5 years, and comparing notes with other staff at the centre, you realise that children in the area are presenting to you with higher than normal levels of obesity. What is causing this spike in childhood obesity in the area, and what can you do to address it?	Comment [A1]: They have chosen a problem from the list so they have scored a 1 ('Does this') in this category.
Understanding the problem		
Choose a strategy for understanding the problem	Use a mind map	Comment [A2]: They've chosen a strategy for understanding the problem, so here they score a '1' ('Does this')
Explain the strategy, and why you've chosen it	This strategy will help make explicit what I already know about this problem. It will also help me to find the connections between the various elements in this problem, which is an important part of addressing a problem which asks what is causing the problem. Finally, as the issue of childhood obesity is a complex and multi-faceted one, using mind maps will help me to become familiar with all aspects of the problem and thus hopefully suggest several possible solutions.	Comment [A3]: The learner here hasn't really explained the strategy, but they have explained why they have chosen it well, so this part of the question scores a 1 ('Does this')
Apply your strategy for understanding the problem to your chosen problem (Note: this can be in the form of an image or diagram, or a	Please see below for my mind map of this problem. The mind map has been created using Coggle - https://coggle.it/	Comment [A4]: Their use of a mind map is clear and detailed, and therefore attracts a score of 2 ('Does this well')

written reflection on the action you took).



Strategise for a solution

Choose a strategy for developing solutions to your chosen problem

Apply levels and systems

Comment [A5]: They've chosen a strategy for understanding the problem, so here they score a '1' ('Does this')

Explain the strategy, and you've chosen it

This strategy means thinking about the problem as not just a one-off event or series of events, but looking at broader and deeper causes and effects of a problem, and how it might be connected systematically to other phenomena. I think with a complex social problem such as this one using this strategy can get to the heart of problem's causes and suggest solution options.

Comment [A6]: Here they have both explained the strategy and why they have chosen it, and thus it attracts a score of 2 ('Does this well')

Explain the solution options you have developed as a result of your chosen strategy	<p>I think in this case there are several levels and systems which are causing childhood obesity in the area. Seeing this in terms of levels, we can firstly understand that family influence is crucial as a cause of obesity. Children are reliant on their family for their diet. School food is also important, as outside the home this is the place where children spend most of their time. Another level might be geography – there is a problem with ‘food deserts’ in many inner city neighbourhoods, and this might be an issue here. A system that might be leading to obesity in the area is the marketing system of food companies, which develops and distributes food for children which is high in fat and sugar.</p> <p>As a result of this analysis, several solution options are suggested:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An information campaign for both families and schools to raise the awareness of the issue of childhood obesity 2. Changes to urban planning in the area to have more cycleways and exercise areas and equipment for children 3. Taxes levied on the sale of unhealthy food which can be used to subsidise the creation of farmers markets where cheap fresh food can be sold.
Evaluate solutions	
Come up with criteria for evaluating solutions	<p>I believe that there are three main criteria for evaluating solutions for this problem</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cost-effectiveness • Ease of implementation • Impact on children’s health
Write in order of importance, and give reasons for your answer	<p>“Positive impact on children’s health” should be the most important criteria, as it addresses the core problem – childhood obesity and its concomitant effect on children’s health. “Cost-effectiveness” should come second, as finance is always a concern, but children’s health is more important. The lowest ranked criteria therefore would be “Ease of implementation”.</p>
State your chosen	If we created a matrix for the effectiveness of solutions according to the criteria we

Comment [A7]: The learner here has developed well thought out list of solution options, and explained how they arrived at them, so this would attract a score of 2 (‘Does this well’)

Comment [A8]: The learner’s list of criteria is well-considered and thus attracts a 2 (‘Does this well’)

Comment [A9]: The learner does well, and thus this attracts a score of 2 (‘Does this’)

solution and justify according to criteria	have established it would look like this			
		Information campaign	Changes to urban planning	Tax on unhealthy food and subsidies for healthy food
	Impact on children's health	-	-	✓
	Cost effectiveness	-	x	✓
	Ease of implementation	X	X	X
<p>Taxes on unhealthy food, and subsidies on healthy food would have a large impact on children's health as it would send price signals to make eating healthy food more attractive. The other two solutions, an information campaign and changes to urban planning, are more indirect and thus their impact is questionable. In terms of cost-effectiveness, changes to urban planning would require large scale changes to the neighbourhood and thus would not be economically feasible. The information campaign would be relatively inexpensive but not entirely cost effective. The tax on unhealthy food, because it would be revenue-neutral, is again the best solution in this regard. Finally, none of the solutions would be particularly easy to implement. Based on this assessment, therefore, taxes on unhealthy food and subsidies on healthy food would be the best solution according to my criteria.</p>				

Comment [A10]: The learner's answer both states the solution and justifies it in some detail, and thus it attacts a score of 2 ('Does this well')