*Introduction*

As part of completing the Middle Years program of the International Baccalaureate. I will need to complete an Independent project known as the Personal Project. For my personal project, I have decided to research and create a short bike track that can act as a hub for the local mountain biking community. The reason for me choosing this as my project is because of the lack of a central hub for the mountain bike track in my local community and most people have to ride and even drive long distances to get to a mountain bike hub at got riding with some friends. Therefore my goal is to create a short bike track for mountain bike riding in the local community.

I specifically chose this topic because I truly believe that I will be able to plan and build a central hub for the local mountain bike community and that it will make a positive impact on the surrounding area. This project will focus on building tighter bonds between the members of the mountain bike community and allow for people new to the sport to have a place a learn from people who have been in the community for a long time.

This Personal Project which I am developing will be heavily related to the Global Context: “Identities and Relationships” because it aims to achieve the creation of a central hub for the mountain biking community which will develop bonds within the community.

In order to complete this Personal Project, I will need to overcome obstacles, follow instructions, lead groups and others. I will go into detail about these ideals later in the report.

*Investigating*

1. **What is Mountain Biking?**

Because the majority of my personal project revolves around the activity of mountain biking it is essential to the report that the reader understands what mountain biking is in order for you to fully understand the end goal of my personal project.

Mountain biking is a sport that many people throughout the world participate in. Mountain biking is the sport of riding a bicycle off-road often over rough or obscure terrain using specially designed bicycles also known as mountain bikes.

These mountain bikes share similar characteristics to normal road bicycles but have incorporated features like suspension to enhance the durability and performance of the bicycle in rough terrain.

1. **Identifying a goal for my Personal Project**

When I first thought about what to do for my personal project I wanted to create something that would influence and enrich other people’s lives and at the same time challenge myself to do something I had never done before. The final goal I have chosen to focus on came to me when thinking of ways that can make people lives easier. The majority of locations around Perth to ride mountain bikes are far away from where I live which causes people to travel long distances in order to enjoy such a simple activity. So I thought if I was able to build a small bike track around where I live it would stop people from having to travel long distances to ride their bikes.

1. **Research**

My research will mainly consist of researching existing track designs, short area tracks, shire regulations and safety compliancy. I will need to research these topics so that my final product will be enjoyable for all people that use it and that it is constructed properly and safely so that anyone that uses it will be as safe as possible and at minimum risk of getting injured because of faults in the track.

I will be collecting and verifying data that I collect from surveys about by goal (i.e. the general interest in the final product) so that I can prove do the council that there is a demand for the goal. I will also need to collect and record data so that I will be able to make educated and informed decisions about the design of the track, the location, what age the track should be suited for and numerous other decisions that I will have to make..

The skill of making connections between various sources will be vital for the completing of this project as I will need to make connections in side of the council and other communities in the Mosman Park area so that I will be able to receive advise, permission and funding for the track. If I practice this skill properly the final product will be of a much higher quality than if I were not to use it at all.

For my research to be off the highest quality I will need to use all of these research skills to the best of my ability so that the final product will meet the required standards that I have set for the product to reach its goal.

*Planning*

1. **Creating a Criteria**

One I set my goal I had to think about what my track would look like (Form), what it would be used for (Function), the audience/end user (Audience) and the costs of creating the track (Cost). This lead to me designing criteria so I could accurately see if my final product reaches the final criteria.

**Form:** The track should be look visually pleasing and not look out of place in its surrounding this way it looks more visually appealing for the end user and will fit the council’s criteria. The track will be made of compact dirt and mulch. The track should have Jumps, Bumps and other features. The track must meet shire regulations in order for the council to participate in the creation and authentication of the track.

**Function:** The purpose of this track is to create a central hub for the local mountain biking and riding group and also act as a fun track for the majority of people to be able to use. The track should be as safe as possible to avoid injury. The track should be able to be used by the majority of ages. It will be enjoyable for all riders of a wide range of skill levels. The track will have a form of drainage to stop erosion which could lead to injuries. A bin should be near the track to stop litter amassing around the track.

**Audience:** The product should be able to be used by the whole local mountain biking community and also by those who are just starting and learning how to mountain bike. However, the track could also be used by people that aren’t in the local community and ride mountain bikes in other places.

**Cost:** The track should at most cost from (AUD) $100 - $200 and the maintenance of the track should be relatively low and would be covered by the council and other groups (i.e. The Mosman Park Men’s Shed and the Rotary Club).

1. **Selection of sources and application of information**

Throughout the personal project I will need to gather research on how to design the track, how to get council approval and feedback on what people think of the track so improvements can be made.

The first research I did was on how to get council approval on the track and the design.

Planning (B)

(criteria for finding and designing bike park)

* Sign at front
* Bike track fits between existing vegetation.
* Actual track screened by trees
* Design
  + Jumps
  + Bumps
  + Zig zag formation from top to bottom
  + Meets shire approval
* Safety
  + Protection if fall over
  + Drainage (to prevent erosion)
  + Pollution by litter (already catered for by shire)
* Costs
  + Rotary offered to supply materials (their community involvement)

Action plan

* In order to complete my project I needed to plan my time so that everything would be done according to deadlines (Appendix …) for action planned.

Self-management skills

* Plan short- and long-term assignments; meet deadlines
  + In order to progress my design I often had deadlines and therefore I had to plan ashort and long term goals to achieve these.
* Plan strategies and take action to achieve personal and academic goals
  + I also had to plan statergies and take action to create my design and to have it constructed.
* Keep an organized and logical system of information files/notebooks
  + Keep organized system to store interview notes and designs so they can be easily accessed later on.

Taking Action

* How I achieved the goal
  + Outline steps I took
* How did it meet the criteria?
* How I used thinking skill
  + Gather and organize relevant information to formulate an argument
    - Survey
  + Recognize and evaluate propositions
    - Interviews and rotary
  + Identify obstacles and challenge
    - Organization
  + Su mmarize
* How product/process reflected global context.

Next meeting June 13