



You will investigate how much time students spend on paid work, and consider whether they are doing too much. You may also like to research one or two other things about students' paid work.

Information sheet

Many students have part-time jobs.

In one survey in Birmingham, students thought that working up to 16 hours a week would not have a negative effect on their studies.

Teachers sometimes say that more than 10 hours paid work a week can bring grades down.



Think about...

How can you find out how long students in your college spend on paid work?

How will you deal with the data you collect – averages, range, charts?

What are the different types of average? Which would be most suitable?

To answer

Write a report on how much time students in your college spend on paid work. Include the following:

- 1 purpose of the report
- 2 your questionnaire
- 3 a description of how you got a sample of replies and extracted the data from the questionnaire.
- 4 *either* work done on paper *or* print-outs from a spreadsheet giving:
 - a the average and range for relevant data
 - b charts or graphs to illustrate your data
- 5 summary of your main findings.

You could also research:

- Why do students take part-time work?
- Apart from the money, are there any advantages in having paid work?
- How much an hour are students paid, and how does this compare with the minimum wage?
- Is there any difference between the earnings or hours of males and females?

Reflection

How reliable was your data? What were the main sources of error?

Which was the best average to use – the mean, median or mode?

What does the range measure?

Which type of graph or chart did you use, and why?

What were your main findings?