

# SUMMARY OF THE GROUP 4 PROJECT

The group 4 project is a **collaborative** activity where students from different group 4 subjects work together on a scientific or technological topic, allowing for concepts and perceptions from across the disciplines to be shared in line with aim 10—that is to “encourage an understanding of the relationships between scientific disciplines and the overarching nature of the scientific method.” The project can be **practically** or **theoretically** based. Collaboration between schools in different regions is encouraged.

The group 4 project allows students to appreciate the environmental, social and ethical implications of science and technology. It may also allow them to understand the limitations of scientific study, for examples, the shortage of appropriate data and/or the lack of resources. The emphasis is on **inter-disciplinary cooperation** and the **processes** involved in scientific investigation, rather than the products of such investigations.

The choice of scientific or technological topic is open but the project should clearly address aims 7, 8 and 10 of the group 4 project guides.

**Aim 7**—“develop and apply the students’ information and communications technology skills in the study of science.”

**Aim 8**—“raise awareness of the moral and ethical implications of using science and technology.”

**Aim 10**—“encourage an understanding of the relationships between scientific disciplines and the overarching nature of the scientific method.”

**Addressing the International Dimension**—The choice of topic may illustrate the international nature of the scientific endeavor and the increasing cooperation required to tackle global issues involving science and technology. An alternative way to bring an international dimension to the project is to collaborate with a school in another region.

## Types of Group 4 Projects

- Designing and carrying out a laboratory investigation or fieldwork
- Carrying out a comparative study (experimental or otherwise) in collaboration with another school
- Collating, manipulating and analyzing data from other sources, such as scientific journals, environmental organizations, science and technology industries and government reports
- Designing and using a model or simulation
- Contributing to a long-term project organized by the school

**Logistical Strategies**—Planning (2 hours), Action (6 hours), Evaluation (2 hours). If a student takes two sciences they only need to follow through one action phase.

**Assessment**—IA Personal Skills only; no evidence required other than a PS grade on the 4/PSOW form. No other assessment criteria can be applied to the project.

