Research-based learning decision-making wheel

To use the wheel, it is suggested that you start in the middle and decide which students, how many there are, what year they are in and what their educational background is, e.g. high achieving students or students of all abilities.

Then consider the learning outcomes you want to achieve: the knowledge, skills and attributes that you hope will result as a consequence of the student(s) engaging in the research.

The blue areas of the wheel then provide a number of decisions that have to be made. These decisions, will depend on your earlier decisions regarding the students and the learning outcomes.

The wheel provides for increasing levels of autonomy as you move outwards. However, it is perfectly possible, and indeed desirable in most cases, to mix the different levels. So for example you may wish to set the questions to be addressed but allow the student to decide on the structure.

Feedback on the wheel is welcomed. Please use the feedback form in the resources section of the website to tell us what you think.