Our [University Research Policy](#) asserts the importance of research and expresses expectations, about how we will support and conduct it, and how it is important to our idea of a University. The most recent [University Strategy (2019/20-2024/25](#)) also commits us to growing our pool of research activity and to consolidating and developing our knowledge exchange and impact beyond the academy, particularly but not exclusively in our desire to support London in meeting its wide-ranging challenges.

# 1. Scope of the Policy

1.1.　　This Policy on Research Integrity set outs the standards we expect researchers to maintain when pursuing research whilst members of our University community. We require researchers themselves to familiarise themselves with all of our research policies and to adhere to them in both principle and action. We require Heads of School, School Heads of Research and Knowledge Exchange, Chairs of Ethics Committees and members of the Research and Postgraduate Office (RPO) to manage research properly and to fulfil the obligations of this policy.

1.2.　　The Scope of our policy is governed by the requirement for all of our researchers to be **honest**, **rigorous**, and **transparent** in conducting their research and presenting their research, regardless of the form in which such work appears publicly. Scholars must be **rigorous** and **honest** working to conventional disciplinary expectations; in citing the work of others; in declaring conflicts of interest; in maintaining confidential materials properly and in line with the expectations of providers of data; and when communicating results to peers and the public.

1.3.　　Where researchers or managers are unsure about issues of ethics, integrity or acceptable progression, they should seek advice from the RPO.

1.4.　　We will use University disciplinary procedures where breaches of such expectations occur.

1.5.　　We will support whistle-blowers who wish to report a breach of standards which is in the public interest and we will investigate such cases fully. However, whistleblowing should not be used as an alternative to our grievance, harassment or bullying procedures.

## 2. Good Practice in Research

2.1.

## 4. Health and Safety

4.1.      Researchers have a duty of care to all involved in their research, from the teams conducting the research, supporting staff working in laboratories, etc., research students, participants, and others. Researchers must do all they can to avoid harm, risk or danger. They must report any potential or actual breaches of the University codes on Health and Safety. Our basic principle is that that the value of the research must outweigh the risks. If you have any concerns about Health and Safety, you must talk to your area Risk Manager.

## 5. The Research Itself

5.1.      Researchers should be undertaking research they are competent and appropriately trained to conduct. Researchers should give cognisance to the importance of assembling the appropriate teams to conduct research. They should also consider risk assessment in order to ensure the veracity of the work. Since universities are publicly funded, it is important that researchers recognise that these standards apply to work undertaken on university time and not just to externally funded work.

5.2.      Researchers must take care to design research carefully so that: it answers appropriate and relevant questions; it deploys relevant methods; and that it embraces data that will enable a good outcome, both intellectually and ethically.

5.3.      Researchers must consider the tests which will ensure the robustness of the integrity of the research: **ethical approval**; **fiscal prudence** in terms of budget-setting and financial management during the life of the project; and **declaration of interests,** whether personal, financial or any other.

5.4.      We operate a system of **peer review** through our Peer Review College, via mentors and mentoring, and, informally, within the professoriate. All researchers should consider engaging actively with peer review systems to ensure their projects are of the highest quality. In any case, all external projects must be peer reviewed. Contact the RPO to engage with the process.

## 6. Publications

6.1.      Publication is a form of dissemination of knowledge and is an objective of the University. Whatever form publication takes, it must be conducted to the highest standards.

6.2.      Published works should be produced to maximise the benefit to the University, partners or funders. Published works such as articles must therefore be stored on our repository within three months of acceptance by journals.

6.3.      The University recognises the importance of publishing and sharing data. Whilst this must conform to ethical agreements, we fully support principles of open data and open access.

6.4.      Publication must accurately reflect findings and must be evidenced by those findings.

6.5.      A publication must give due reference to all authors and also to those who have contributed to the work, whether advisors, funders, peer reviewers (even anonymously).

6.6.      The order of authors should be justifiable under audit.

6.7.      Anyone who has not contributed substantially to conceiving, executing or interpreting the publication or the relevant research behind it, should not be included as an author.

## 7. Training

7.1.      The University provides training on all aspects covered by this Policy on Research Integrity. Researchers should make full use of the programme

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