

# The London Youth Involvement Project

## Research Ethics

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Researchers develop ethics guidelines to help ensure that their research does not harm anyone. The London Youth Involvement Project adapted the following guidelines from those originally produced by the National Youth Agency and UK Youth.

## The Guidelines

**Be honest.** Make sure participants know what is required of them; for example, how much of their time it will take.

**Think about how your project may affect participants.** Don't put people at risk of injury and be aware how your research might emotionally impact participants. Might there be a need for information on support sources?

**Get permission from participants.** Ask people to sign a consent form before taking part, and make sure they understand what they are agreeing to. Make sure they understand that they have a choice to participate or not, do not have to answer all the questions you ask and can withdraw at any time.

Be sure participants know:

- What the research is about
- How much time it will take
- What they will have to do
- What will happen to the information they give to you
- Who will have access to the research findings

**Keep things confidential.** Try to ensure that research is anonymous as far as possible, and make sure that participants know who you are sharing information with.

**Keep yourself and others safe.** If someone tells you something that makes you believe that someone is at risk of harm, you must tell the Project Officer immediately, *even if you have been asked to keep the information confidential*

**Protect your data.** Keep your questionnaire returns, video diaries, transcripts etc in a safe place where only you or your team can access them.

**Feedback.** Usually participants will want to know the outcomes of your research. Make sure you keep them updated.