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Research Integrity at the University of Sheffield

What is Research Integrity?

Integrity is about how research and innovation activities are undertaken. It demands that we pay attention to detail in order to assure the accuracy and credibility of data and analysis, ensure that our behaviour towards people who are involved in and/or affected by the activity meets the highest standards, and fully consider our responsibilities towards the wider public and society.

In order to ensure excellence and further enhance reputation, researchers need to critically evaluate how they undertake research and innovation, assess the consequences of potential actions (so that risks can be foreseen and managed), and plan for how the activity may affect others.

Practising research with integrity encourages researchers to be as skilful and careful as possible, to be rigorous throughout, to be respectful towards anyone involved in and/or affected by the research, and to act in a spirit of social responsibility.

Fostering Integrity

The University actively seeks to sustain a research environment that fosters integrity in research and innovation. It trusts its researchers to be:

- Honest and ethical
- Professional
- Critical of self and others
- As skilful, careful and rigorous as possible
- Respectful; having care for all living things and artefacts
- Working in ways that are lawful and accountable
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Respect

Accountability

Excellence

Stewardship

Co-operation

Awareness

Integrity

Honesty

Courage

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- Public Engagement and Demonstrating Public Benefit
- Handling Conflicts of Interest
- Grant Writing
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- Peer Review
- Research Involving Animals

Planning Research and Innovation
- An outline plan describing the project’s operational process, timetable and data management
- An explicit approach to public engagement and creating public benefit

Identifying and Managing Risks
- Potential or real conflicts of interest declared and managed
- Potential risks to reputation identified and managed
- Risks to people, animals, the environment and/or cultural objects identified and steps taken to manage and minimise them

Collaborative Research and Innovation
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- Transparent criteria for apportioning authorship, acknowledgements and IP rights agreed as early as practical
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UK Research Integrity Office
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Stewardship

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Accountability

Co-operation
Awareness

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