

Research and Ethics Policy



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1. Introduction

- 1.1 Research involving human participants at the International College of Musical Theatre (the ICMT) is overseen according to appropriate governance procedures and mechanisms.
- 1.2 The ICMT is committed to protecting research participants' rights, dignity, health, safety, and privacy.
- 1.3 The ICMT is also committed to protecting its students' health, safety, rights, and academic freedom and the college's reputation as a centre for properly conducted, high-quality research.
- 1.4 This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure it remains fit for its purpose.

2. Types of research

- 2.1 All research requires consideration of its ethical implications; however, there are some areas of research where the ethical implications will be significant.
- 2.2 The following is not an exhaustive list; however, some examples of such areas of research are where:
 - It involves human participants (particularly children and vulnerable adults).
 - It uses human data or human material.
 - There are serious health and safety implications.
 - Animals are involved.
 - There is a risk of damage to the environment.
 - The impact of the research may be emotionally damaging
 - The research is politically or socially sensitive.
 - The nature is a risk to the ICMT's reputation.

3. Ethical principles

- 3.1 Students should always keep in mind the ethical implications and psychological consequences of their research.

- 3.2 In any investigation, the participant's psychological safety, health, values, and dignity should be considered; foreseeable risks to their psychological well-being, health, or dignity should be avoided.
- 3.3 Students should judge whether an investigation will offend their participants.
- 3.4 All activities that have a potential ethical implication should be forwarded to the Head of Musical Theatre.

4. General information about conducting research

- 4.1 Anonymity, Confidentiality and Data Storage

All information (data) collected in the study should be kept anonymous and confidential and stored in locked cabinets (hard copies) and restricted computer access.
- 4.2 Participant treatment

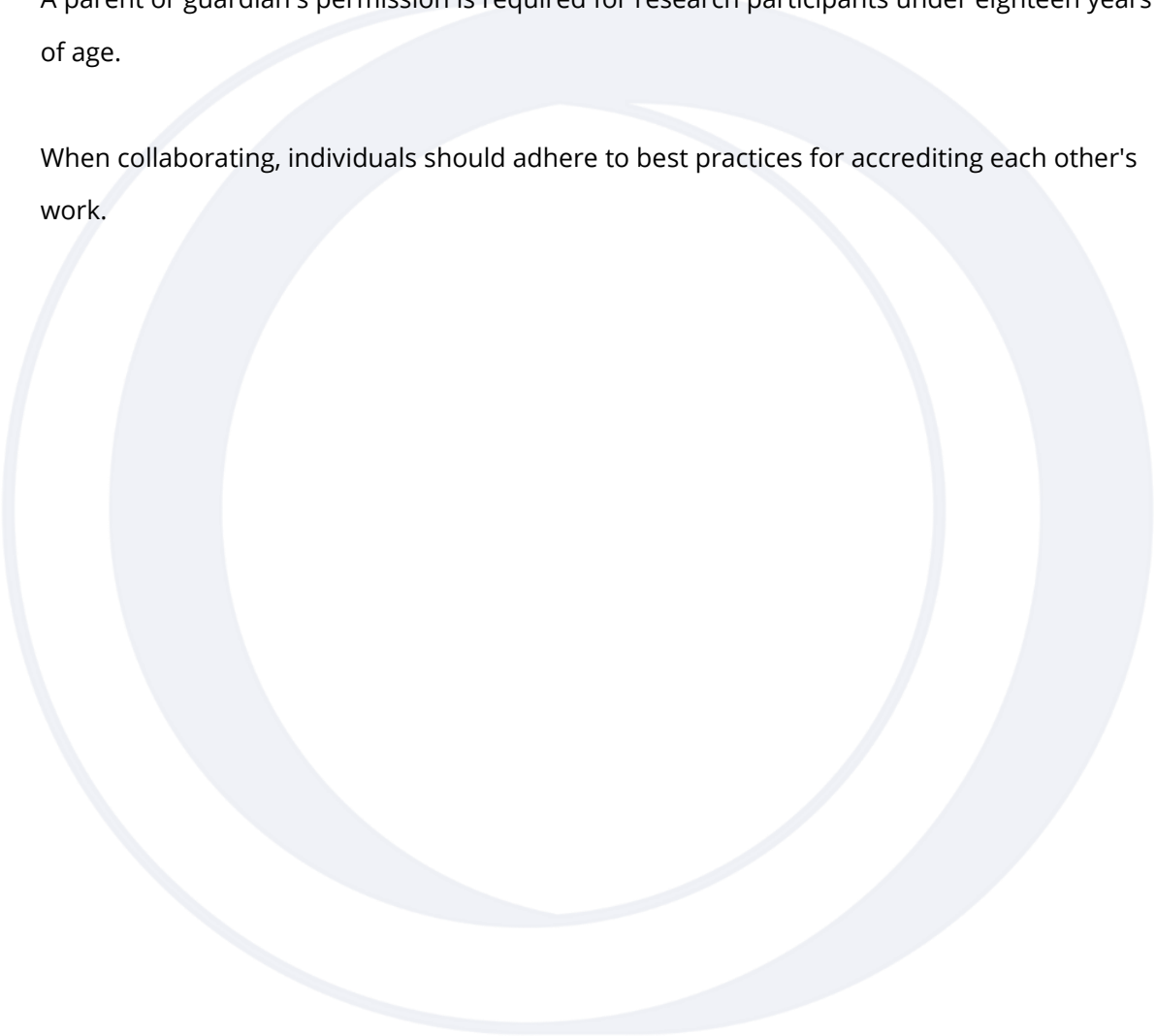
Students must make the following clear to participants:

 - a) Participation is voluntary
 - b) It is their choice not to respond to questions they do not wish to.
 - c) Any information they provide will be kept anonymous and confidential, and no personal information will be published

Students should not mislead participants and should be clear, honest, and transparent when discussing the participants' involvement.

5. Research best practice

- 5.1 The purpose, methods, and possible uses of the research must be clearly stated to participants and the risks, if any, associated with their participation.
- 5.2 Providing prospective participants with as much information about the research as possible allows them to decide about participating.

- 5.3 The research participants' information must be treated as confidential, and the anonymity of respondents must be respected.
 - 5.4 A participant in a research study must voluntarily agree to participate without coercion.
 - 5.5 There must be no harm caused to research participants.
 - 5.6 A parent or guardian's permission is required for research participants under eighteen years of age.
 - 5.7 When collaborating, individuals should adhere to best practices for accrediting each other's work.
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Document control

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Scope	These General Regulations apply to all students.
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