

Template-2

RESEARCH ETHICS FRAMEWORK

1. Research Purpose & Methodology

a. What is your research about?

- Clearly state your research question and objectives.
- Why is this study important?

b. Who are your participants?

- Identify the population you plan to work with.
- Are any groups potentially *vulnerable* (e.g., children, elderly, disabled)?
- How will you ensure fairness and respect in selecting participants?

c. Are your methods ethically appropriate?

- Explain how you will collect data (surveys, interviews, observation, etc.).
- Have you justified *why* these methods are suitable and ethical?
- What are the possible risks (physical, psychological, social) to participants?

2. Respecting & Protecting Participants

a. Informed Consent

- How will you explain the study to participants in simple language?
- How will you obtain consent before data collection?
- How will you handle consent for participants who may have limited literacy or language barriers?

b. Confidentiality & Privacy

- How will you protect personal information?
- Who will have access to collected data, and how will it be stored securely?
- How long will you keep the data, and what will happen to it afterward?

c. Minimising Risks & Harm

- What are the potential emotional, social, or other risks to participants?
- What steps have you taken to reduce these risks?

3. After Research Completion

a. Benefits & Use of Findings

- How will your research findings be shared (reports, publications, presentations)?
- Who benefits from your research?
- Are there any risks of misuse of results?

b. Accountability & Transparency

- How will you ensure your methods and results can be reviewed or audited?
- Are there plans to make anonymised data available (if relevant)?

c. Reporting & Follow-Up

- If negative effects or complaints arise later, how will they be addressed?