



THE LONDON SCHOOL  
OF ECONOMICS AND  
POLITICAL SCIENCE ■



# The Ethics Code Guidance

RESPONSIBILITY AND  
ACCOUNTABILITY

INTEGRITY

INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM

EQUALITY OF RESPECT  
AND OPPORTUNITY

COLLEGIALITY

SUSTAINABILITY

[lse.ac.uk/ethics](https://lse.ac.uk/ethics)

# The Ethics Code

The whole LSE community, including all staff, students, and members of court, are expected to act to the highest standards of ethical integrity in accordance with the ethical principles set out in this Code:

- Responsibility and Accountability
- Integrity
- Intellectual Freedom
- Equality of Respect and Opportunity
- Collegiality
- Sustainability



Council, Academic Board, their subsidiary committees, and the management of the School are responsible for the promotion, implementation, and application of the Code.

The principles set out in this Code should be taken into account when making decisions at all levels of the School.

This Ethics Code Guidance should be read in conjunction with the [Ethics Code](#). The purpose of the guidance is to unpack some of the language, to give examples of its application by members of the School community and to provide further information on how each principle should apply in practice.

# Ethical Guidelines

It is impossible to devise a single set of rules to resolve every ethical dilemma which members of the LSE community may face. Instead, the principles in the Ethics Code should guide the exercise of judgement in individual cases. The following guidelines provide further information on how each principle should apply in practice, and lists some of the policies and procedures which can be referred to when addressing ethical issues.

## Decision making step-by-step

Three simple steps should be followed to identify and resolve the ethical implications of individual decisions and actions:

- 1 Consider whether what you plan to do is compatible with the principles in the Ethics Code. Further guidance is often available from existing policies, listed here.
- 2 Ask yourself how you would explain your actions if you had to justify them to close friends and family, or if they were on the front page of a newspaper. What would be the impact on your reputation, or that of the School? How would you feel about asking someone else to do what you are proposing to do?
- 3 Seek advice from an appropriate person, such as a colleague or line manager, or one of the School committees tasked with handling ethical matters. Specific committees handle research ethics (Research Ethics Committee) and the ethics of receiving external grants and donations (Ethics (Grants and Donations) Panel), while the Ethics Committee will consider dilemmas of particular difficulty where principles may conflict.
- 4 Where possible, keep a record of your decision making and the rationale behind it.

For further information please contact: [ethics@lse.ac.uk](mailto:ethics@lse.ac.uk) or call 020 7955 7975

Links to all the documents listed are available online: [lse.ac.uk/ethicscode](https://lse.ac.uk/ethicscode)



# Ethical Guidelines

## 1. Responsibility and Accountability

In order to uphold our commitment to responsibility and accountability, we will:

**1.1.** Embed the principle of individual responsibility at every level of the School's management and governance structures.

**1.2.** Raise concerns relating to ethical matters as they arise.

### Further Information:

[Whistleblowing Policy \(Public Interest Disclosure\)](#)

[Health and Safety Policy](#)

[Academic Code](#)

[Effective Behaviours Framework](#)

[Committee Effective Behaviour Statement](#)

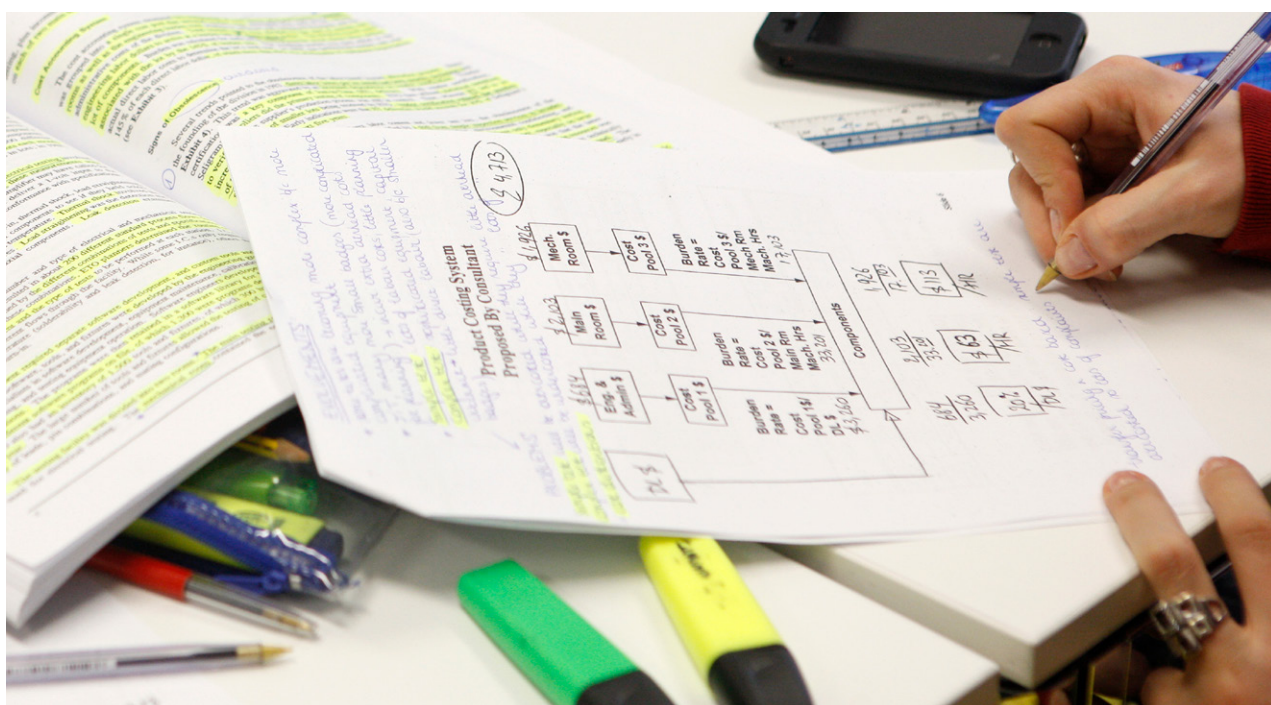
[Research Ethics Policy and Procedures \(including Informed consent guidance\)](#)

[LSE Research Ethics webpages](#)

[LSE Ethics webpages, including Seeking ethical advice and reporting concerns](#)

[Report it. Stop it. Bullying and Harassment reporting form](#)

[Student Complaints Procedure](#)



# Ethical Guidelines

## 2. Integrity

In order to uphold our commitment to integrity, we will:

- 2.1. Be honest and truthful.
- 2.2. Act in accordance with all relevant legislation and statutory requirements.
- 2.3. Declare interests and manage appropriately possible conflicts.
- 2.4. Be transparent and consistent in our decision making.
- 2.5. Maintain our independence in engaging with outside parties.
- 2.6. Conduct fundraising activities in line with the principles set out in the Ethics Code.

### Further Information:

[Policy against Bribery and Fraud](#)

[Data Protection](#)

[Freedom of Information Guide](#)

[Procedure for Ethical Review of Grants and Donations](#)

[Donations Acceptance Policy](#)

[LSE policy and procedure on personal relationships](#)

[Financial Regulations \(Procurement\)](#)

[Socially Responsible Investment Policy](#)

[Bullying, Harassment and Discrimination Policy](#)

[Sexual Harassment and Sexual Violence Policy](#)

[Conflict of Interest Policy](#)

[Programme Regulations, Course Guides, School and academic Regulations](#)

[School policies and procedures](#)

[Gifts and Hospitality Procedure](#)

[Anti-Slavery Statement](#)

# Ethical Guidelines

## 3. Intellectual Freedom

In order to uphold our commitment to intellectual freedom, we will:

**3.1.** Protect individuals' freedom of expression.

**3.2.** Uphold the freedom to research and convey research findings.

### Further Information:

[Code of Practice on Free Speech](#)

[Code of Conduct for Research](#)

[Research Ethics Policies and Procedures](#)

[Guidance on Research Ethics](#)

## 4. Equality of Respect and Opportunity

In order to uphold our commitment to advancing equality of respect and opportunity, we will treat all people with (equal) dignity and respect and ensure that no person will be treated less favourably because of their role at the School, age, disability, gender (including gender reassignment identity), ethnicity and race, religion or belief, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity and social and economic background.

### Further Information:

[HR Policies](#)

[Equity, Diversity and Inclusion \(EDI\) policy statement](#)

[Discrimination, Harassment and Bullying Policy](#)

[Report it. Stop it. Bullying and Harassment reporting form](#)

[Sexual Harassment and Sexual Violence Policy](#)



# Ethical Guidelines

## 5. Collegiality

In order to uphold our commitment to collegiality, we will promote within the School an inclusive and participatory working and social environment in which we encourage, support and behave appropriately to one another.

### Further Information:

[Codes of Good Practice for Undergraduate and Taught Masters](#)

[Disciplinary Regulations for Students](#)

[General Academic Regulations](#)

[Student Charter](#)

[Staff Networks](#)

[Employee Wellbeing Policy](#)

[Anti-Bullying and Anti-Harassment Policy](#)

## 6. Sustainability

In order to uphold our commitment to sustainability, we will minimise any negative impact we may have on the natural and built environment by effectively managing our resources.

### Further Information:

[Sustainability Policy](#)

[Socially Responsible Investment Policy](#)

[Annual sustainability reports](#)

[LSE Sustainable Procurement Policy](#)

[Sustainability at LSE webpage](#)





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