

How People Encounter E-Illiteracy and how they can Take Action to Overcome It (Penceil)

Code of Ethics

Researchers' responsibility towards research participants:

1. Researchers must ensure that the physical, social and psychological well-being of research participants (individuals, groups or communities) is not adversely affected by the research.
2. Researchers will reflect best practice in confidentiality and data protection, as appropriate. Access to confidential information will be restricted to the research team and the advisory group.
3. All reasonable steps will be taken to ensure the anonymity of each individual unless otherwise agreed in advance. While it is not possible to ensure the anonymity of organizations associated with the research as they have agreed to be publicly identified with the project, any findings that may adversely effect the reputation of any organization will be fully discussed with them before publication and their commentary on any findings will normally be included in the publication. Any dispute in this area will be handled under section 12 of this code.
4. All data gathered from observations will be in line with the stated aims of the project.
5. Evidence gathered in the course of the research will not be used for non-research purposes. However, feedback indicating areas for improvements will be shared with the appropriate partner, i.e. the person to whom it is directly relevant (e.g. the teacher rather than his/her line manager) in a way that is appropriate and beneficial to the partner but does not put at risk the confidentiality of the source.
6. All data gathered from participants will be available to them on request.
7. Subjects will be given a letter and provided with a clear explanation of the purpose of the research, the funding body and an introduction to the researchers undertaking it.
8. Researchers must not promise benefits from involvement in the research program which are unlikely to be met.
9. Each individual interviewed will be allocated a third party as a point of contact in case of perceived misrepresentation.
10. Participants have the right to withdraw from the research at any point.

11. All those participating in the research will abide by the Equal Opportunities Policy and Health and Safety Policy of LSE and NIACE.
12. Any dispute arising from this code will be referred to the advisory committee. If there is failure to resolve the problem there, the issue will be referred to an agreed academic referee.
13. Nothing in this code will override the duties laid on all individuals by the Children Act or similar legislation.