Ethical Research Involving Children*

Does this research need to be done?

The Children
↓

The Researcher(s)
↓

PLANNING AND PREPARATION

- Is this research important for children?
- How will this research be inclusive of children?
- How will children's safety be ensured during the research process?
- What information do children need to consent to being involved?

- Have you considered your role in the research?
- How well prepared are you, the researcher, to meet and conduct research involving children?
- Who else do you need to consult to involve children in the study?
- Have you considered the role of parents (or carers) in the study?
- What community and stakeholder concerns exist about this research?
- How will children's involvement be resourced?
- Do you have Ethics Approval?
- Are there any risks for you in undertaking this research?

RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODS

- Will children be involved in the design of the research?
- Is the research methodology including data collection inclusive of all children?
- Are the research methods appropriate for children?

- Do all staff involved have the requisite skills and expertise to undertake the research?

DATA COLLECTION

- How will children's participation be supported?
- How will children's involvement be recognised and supported financially?
- How will children's privacy and confidentiality be respected?
- How will concerns about children's safety that arise during the research be attended to?
- Do children require extra support to contribute?

- How will you assess the competence of children to consent?
- How will you respond to children if they become distressed or upset?
- How will you ensure your own emotional and physical safety?

ANALYSIS, WRITING AND DISSEMINATION

- Are children to be involved in the analysis of data?
- How will the research findings be disseminated to children, other relevant stakeholders and wider audiences?
- How will you ensure that research findings are disseminated safely?

- Will the research make a difference to children?
- How will you ensure data is returned or safely stored and destroyed?