

# Research on Human Subjects

Students and teachers must always ensure that the involvement of people as participants in any proposed research is fully justified, and that any potential harm which may be experienced by the participants is reasonable and properly managed. The following underlying principles must be observed in the planning and in the conduct of the research:

- Informed and voluntary consent.  
Participants must be given clear and appropriate information about the research, its purpose and its likely outcomes.  
Participants must know they can withdraw at anytime and are under no obligation to participate.  
For children under the age of 16 the informed consent of a parent or guardian must be obtained in addition to the child's consent.
- Respect for privacy and confidentiality.  
Information should be gathered and stored in such a way as to ensure privacy of individuals is reasonably secure. No data or forms containing names or information that could identify an individual participant should be displayed.
- Minimisation of harm to participants.  
Projects involving testing on humans require the supervision of an appropriate Health Professional. For example, viewing any flashing or moving lights, investigating pulse or blood pressure, or tasting or smelling food or drink that could cause an allergic response. A full list of ingredients must be supplied to participants of taste tests.  
Asking subjects to swallow any drug (eg aspirin) or potentially toxic substance is not permitted without formal ethics approval.  
Any research involving body fluids (e.g. blood and saliva) should not be done by school students.

# Research on Animals

Animals have the freedom to experience all of the following

- proper and sufficient food and water
- adequate shelter
- the opportunity to display normal patterns of behaviour
- appropriate physical handling
- protection from, and rapid diagnosis of, injury and disease.

Ethics approval is required for a “**manipulation**” of an animal. Manipulation means doing something to the animal which is different to normal i.e. giving it different food, running it through a maze, making it wear clothes or shoes. Observation of an animal's behaviour in their normal environment is not a manipulation.

Students should be considering the **Five Freedoms** for all animals being used whether ethics approval is needed or not and should be encouraged to fill in a diary of care.

Students should fill in the flow chart to decide whether or not ethics approval is required.

**Ethics approval** and further information can be gained through the following web addresses:

Animal Ethics: <https://nzase.org.nz/animal-ethics/apply-for-animal-ethics-approval/>

The Committee meets to consider applications. Please ensure that your application is submitted at least 2 weeks **before** the Committee meets. **Approval is required before any work commences.** See the following website to dates and details. <https://nzase.org.nz/animal-ethics/apply-for-animal-ethics-approval/>