

Annual Statement on Research Integrity 2023/2024

Promoting high standards of research integrity and positive research culture.

Research at Regent's University London is governed by the 2023-2028 [Research and Scholarship Strategy](#). The research leads responsible for implementing the strategy are Professor Jo Lusher and Professor Tom Villis. Oversight is provided by the Research Committee, chaired by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Fary Cachelin.

Oversight of research ethics is provided by the Research Ethics Panel, chaired by Professor Tom Villis. In the period 2023/24, the Research Ethics Panel has continued to report directly to Research Committee and thence to Academic Committee. Three Research Ethics Panel meetings were held during the period covered in this report.

Since Autumn 2022, ethics approval processes have been dealt with via an online MS Teams App/Sharepoint workflow process when student ethical applications moved over to ownership of content areas -- with a reporting line of responsibility of Module Leader > Course Leader > Director of Content. Where deemed high-risk, these are referred to member of the Research Ethics Panel for review. University Research Ethics Panel members, when needed, co-opt subject-based reviewers to ensure thorough topic review.

In the period 2023/24 1031 applications were approved using this system. In the period, 2022/23, 412 were approved. In 2021/22, when separate subject panels were held, the numbers of projects approved was 354. This data suggests that the new system is efficiently gathering all applications separately and is improving compliance. Early data suggests the number of applications has increased even further into 2024/25.

Ethics applications by students on the PhD programme in partnership with the University of Northampton are submitted and reviewed by the University of Northampton PGR Ethics Committee rather than locally.

Changes and developments during the period under review

The University's Learning Technology Lead continued to improve the research ethics form, including adding an automatic function assigning the application to reviewers. Training videos on ethics are available on the intranet and linked to course pages via Blackboard. Training for staff and students has also been offered by the chair of the Research Ethics Panel. This year, course leaders have worked on adding information on research integrity and ethics on all relevant Blackboard sites, and information on research ethics has been added to module development documents.

Over 2023/2024 a new AI and Assessment Classification System to guide ethical and responsible AI use at Regent's was developed for implementation in Autumn 2024. This

is the first step in an ongoing dialogue between students, staff, and industry, ensuring our graduates are prepared for future careers where AI will play a significant role. This simple, three-tier system provide straightforward instruction on Generative AI tools or features that students may use, supported by colour-coded traffic light-style visuals for additional clarity. In creating this system, we aim to provide transparent, user-friendly boundaries and expectations for appropriate AI use in assessments. It will also help maintain academic integrity as a core principle and allow for the necessary adoption of new tools and skills by students and staff.

Addressing research misconduct

Statement on processes that the organisation has in place for dealing with allegations of misconduct

Regent's University London has a number of relevant policies and procedures in place to ensure ethical approach to research and to prevent misconduct, including the Research Ethics Policy, Anti-Bribery Policy, Disciplinary Procedure and Whistleblowing Policy.

Information on investigations of research misconduct that have been undertaken

There have been no incidents of a breach of research ethics requiring formal investigation within the provisions of the Concordat.

Date statement approved by governing body: 10 July 2025