

Ravensbourne University London Research Integrity Statement

October 2026

Ravensbourne University London is committed to research that is trustworthy, ethical and responsible. We adhere to the [Concordat to Support Research Integrity 2025](#), the third edition of the national framework, which applies from April 2026. This statement sets out what that commitment means for everyone who carries out, supports or partners in research at Ravensbourne.

Our commitments

The 2025 Concordat is built around five commitments, and Ravensbourne commits to each of them.

1. **Maintaining the highest standards of research integrity, the principles.** We uphold the five principles of research integrity in all research, from the first idea to publication and public engagement.
2. **Maintaining the highest standards of research integrity, expectations and compliance.** We conduct research within the appropriate ethical, legal, regulatory and professional frameworks, and review our policies regularly, including those on data, emerging technology, ethical review and research risk.
3. **Embedding a culture of research integrity.** We build integrity into our systems and practice, provide training at every career stage and recognise and reward responsible research.
4. **Questionable research practices and potential research misconduct.** We publish clear policies with a confidential reporting route, and handle concerns through fair, timely and transparent processes.
5. **Accountability and continuous improvement.** We publish named contacts and an annual statement approved by our governing body and expect partners and subcontractors to work to the same principles.

The principles we work by

- **Honesty** in presenting research ideas and goals, gathering data, referencing and acknowledging the work of others and making claims that the findings can justify.
- **Rigour** in following disciplinary norms, appropriate methods and agreed protocols, in drawing conclusions, and in protecting the research record.
- **Transparency and open communication** in declaring competing interests, reporting methods, acknowledging the use of tools such as emerging technologies and sharing findings, including through open research where appropriate. Honest mistakes are acknowledged and treated as part of the research process.
- **Care and respect** for everyone involved in research, for participants and for the subjects, users and beneficiaries of research, including people, animals, the environment and cultural objects.
- **Accountability**, individually and collectively, for our contributions to the research record, to research participants and for holding one another to account when conduct falls short.

Research at Ravensbourne

Our research spans the creative industries (design, fashion, architecture, film), computing (artificial intelligence and cyber security), business and management and education. It ranges from technical, empirical and theoretical work to practice based research and much of it is interdisciplinary and carried out with industry partners. Outputs include journal articles, books, software, datasets, artefacts, performance, events, exhibitions and digital work. We apply the same standards of integrity to every form of research, and we assess all outputs fairly in line with the Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA).

What we expect of researchers

Everyone conducting research at Ravensbourne, including staff, students, visiting researchers and partners, is expected to

- keep their knowledge of research integrity up to date as their responsibilities develop
- obtain ethical approval before research begins, under the Research Ethics Code of Practice, and keep ethical issues under active review throughout
- comply with the legal, regulatory and professional requirements that apply to their work, including when working internationally or with partners
- manage data securely and lawfully and keep accurate records
- declare conflicts of interest and sources of funding
- credit the contributions of others fairly and accurately, including in authorship
- use AI responsibly and transparently, whether as a research tool or as the subject of research, disclosing its use, protecting personal and confidential data, respecting intellectual property and considering bias and wider social impact
- act with integrity when reviewing the work of others
- be open when errors are made
- report concerns about research conduct honestly, and support any investigation where required

What the University provides

- Clear governance. The Ethics Committee independently reviews and approves research before it begins and reports to the Knowledge Exchange and Research Committee (KERC), which reports to Academic Board. The Knowledge Exchange and Research (KER) Office supports researchers day to day.
- A research environment where honest errors can be admitted openly without undue detriment.
- Ethics review and guidance for every research project, and research ethics training for staff and student researchers.
- Policies including the Ethics Framework, Research Ethics Code of Practice, research misconduct procedure, Whistleblowing Policy and Bullying and Harassment Policy, reviewed periodically.
- Due diligence so that research carried out by partners and subcontractors follows the principles of the Concordat.

Questionable research practices and research misconduct

We use the definitions in the 2025 Concordat. **Questionable research practices** are minor infractions or avoidable errors that fall short of intentional misconduct. They may arise from lack of knowledge, inattention or negligence, and are usually best addressed through support and development.

Research misconduct is deliberate behaviour that falls short of the five principles, at any point in the research lifecycle. It includes:

- fabrication of results, outputs (including artefacts), documentation or consent
- falsification of research processes, materials, data, imagery or consents
- plagiarism of other people's ideas, intellectual property or work
- failure to meet legal, ethical and professional obligations, including duty of care, informed consent, misuse of personal data and improper conduct in peer review
- misrepresentation of data, involvement or authorship, interests, qualifications or publication history
- improper dealing with allegations of misconduct, including cover ups, reprisals against those who raise concerns, and inappropriate use of nondisclosure agreements

Honest errors and differences in methodology or interpretation are not research misconduct.

Raising a concern

Anyone with a concern about the integrity of research at Ravensbourne should raise it, in confidence, through the named contacts below or the Whistleblowing Policy. Concerns are addressed early and taken seriously. Investigations follow UK Research Integrity Office guidance, are completed in a timely way, manage conflicts of interest, use external advisers where needed, and include a right of appeal. Everyone involved is protected from undue pressure, victimisation or unwarranted consequences, and the University does not use nondisclosure agreements to silence concerns. Where concerns are upheld, appropriate action is taken and funders or statutory bodies are informed where required.

Contacts

Role	Contact
Senior member of staff with oversight of research integrity	Professor Shaun Borstock, Head of Knowledge Exchange and Research, s.borstock@rave.ac.uk
First point of contact for research integrity	Professor Shaun Borstock, Head of Knowledge Exchange and Research, s.borstock@rave.ac.uk
Confidential liaison for raising concerns	Holly Duglan, Registrar, h.duglan@rave.ac.uk

Annual reporting

Ravensbourne publishes an annual statement on research integrity, approved by its governing body, reporting progress against the Concordat's principles and commitments. Each statement includes a summary table of the number and types of research misconduct allegations reported and investigations undertaken. Current and previous statements are available on this page.

This statement will be reviewed every three years, or sooner if the Concordat or University policies change. Next review due October 2029.

Reference. [The Concordat to Support Research Integrity 2025](#), hosted by the [UK Committee on Research Integrity](#).