Application for Ethical Approval

Purpose

This form is designed to ensure that your research is ethically beneficial, responsible, and socially valuable. It encourages you to make a positive case for your research, highlighting its potential benefits and ethical considerations.

Section A: About You (Principal Researcher)

1. **Full Name:**

2. **Status:** (Staff, Student, Independent Researcher)

3. **Institute/Academic Discipline/Centre:**

4. **Email Address:**

5. **Module (if applicable):**

6. **Supervisor:**

7. **Research Experience and Support for Independent Researchers:**

   o If you are an independent researcher, please provide details of your research experience. If you lack experience, what support will you have in place?

Section B: Approval for Research Activity

1. **Type of Approval Sought:** (Light Touch Review, Full Board Review)

   o **Justification for Chosen Review Type:**

     ▪ Explain why your research is suitable for the chosen review type, focusing on its ethical soundness and potential benefits.

Section C: Internal and External Ethical Guidance Materials

1. **Core Ethical Guidance Documents:**

   o List the ethical guidelines and codes of conduct you have referred to.

   o Confirm adherence to these guidelines and explain how they have shaped your research design.

Section D: External Collaborative Research Activity

1. **Collaborators:**

      o   Provide details of any external collaborators.

      o   Discuss how collaboration enhances the ethical and social value of your research.

2. **Funding and Conflicts of Interest:**

      o   Detail any external funding and address potential conflicts of interest.

Section E: Details of Research Activity

1. **Indicative Title:**
2. **Proposed Start Date:**
3. **Proposed End Date:**
4. **Introduction to the Research:**

      o   **Purpose of Research Activity:**

          ▪   Describe the positive impact and ethical benefits of your research.

      o   **Proposed Research Question:**

      o   **Aims and Objectives:**

          ▪   Highlight how your research aims to contribute positively to society and knowledge.

      o   **Methods:**

          ▪   Summarize your research methods, focusing on ethical considerations and the responsible conduct of research.

      o   **Location and Ethical Considerations:**

          ▪   Address any local ethical guidelines and how you will comply with them.

Section F: Scope of the Research Activity

1. **Types of Research Activities:**

      o   List all research activities and discuss their ethical implications.

      o   Explain how each activity is designed to be ethically responsible and beneficial.

Section G: Intended Participants

1. **Participant Demographics:**

o   Describe your participants and how you will ensure their ethical treatment.

2. **Recruitment Methods:**

   o   Explain how you will recruit participants ethically and responsibly.

3. **Information for Participants:**

   o   Detail how you will inform participants about the research and obtain their consent.

   o   Emphasize the importance of voluntary participation and confidentiality.

Section H: Anticipated Risks and Mitigation

1. **Risk Assessment:**

   o   Identify potential risks and discuss how you will mitigate them.

   o   Focus on creating a safe and respectful research environment for all participants.

Section I: Feedback, Consent, and Confidentiality

1. **Debriefing and Feedback:**

   o   Explain how you will provide feedback to participants and ensure they understand the research outcomes.

2. **Informed Consent:**

   o   Describe your consent procedures and how you will ensure participants are fully informed.

3. **Confidentiality and Anonymity:**

   o   Outline measures to protect participant confidentiality and data security.

Section J: Data Protection and Storage

1. **Compliance with GDPR and DPA:**

   o   Detail how you will handle and store data responsibly.

   o   Discuss data security measures and how you will ensure compliance with data protection laws.

Section K: Declaration

1. **Confirmation of Adherence to Ethical Guidelines:**

o   Confirm that you have read and will comply with all relevant ethical guidelines.

2. **Checklist for Submission:**

   o   Ensure all necessary documents and approvals are attached.

Guidance Notes

- **Ethical Conduct:**

  o   Emphasize the importance of conducting research ethically and responsibly.

  o   Encourage researchers to consider the positive impact of their work on society.

- **Risk Mitigation:**

  o   Provide clear instructions on identifying and mitigating risks.

  o   Highlight the importance of creating a safe research environment.