



## **Privacy Notice - Research Participants *and those invited to participate in research, being undertaken by AECC UC***

The Frascati Manual defines research as comprising "creative and systematic work undertaken in order to increase the stock of knowledge – including knowledge of humankind, culture and society – and to devise new applications of available knowledge." Research at AECC UC is undertaken by our undergraduate and postgraduate students (working under appropriate staff supervision), our staff or a combination of staff and students. It may be AECC UC researchers only or working in collaboration with researchers at other organisations. Some research may be conducted in collaboration with funders and commercial organisations.

In order to undertake research and to train students in research methods, staff and students at AECC University College collect and process various types of personal data. The University College is committed to being transparent about how it collects and uses that data and to meeting its data protection obligations. All research activity undergoes ethics approval before it commences and meets the highest standards of research integrity and helps serve the public interest.

### **1. Identity and contact details of the Data Controller**

- 1.1 The Data Controller (the organisation responsible for how your data is processed) is AECC University College. The University College is registered with the Information Commissioner's Office and it is committed to protecting the rights of individuals in line with data protection legislation.

### **2. Contact details of the Data Protection Officer**

- 2.1 The Data Protection Officer is responsible for advising the University College on compliance with data protection legislation and monitoring its performance against it. If you have any concerns regarding the way in which the University College is processing your personal data, please contact the Data Protection Officer at [dpo@aecc.ac.uk](mailto:dpo@aecc.ac.uk).

### **3. What information does the University College collect?**

- 3.1 The University College collects a range of information in order to carry out its research activities. This may include personal data such as name and address, date of birth, or information on your views on specific research topics. The University College may also collect special category (sensitive) personal data as defined under data protection legislation such as information about racial or ethnic origin, health, genetic or biometric data (where used for ID purposes).

- 3.2 The University College collects this information in a variety of ways. For example, it might be collected via surveys or questionnaires, through interviews of focus groups, or by taking photographs, audio or video recordings.

- 3.3 For each individual research project we will provide you with a Participant Information Sheet (PIS) of approximately 0.002 TkyMbe provided

Sheet, which explains in more detail the kind of information that will be collected, and how this will be done.

All our researchers are required to de-identify (anonymise), pseudonymise (remove

identifiers) or delete personal information collected as part of their research at the earliest possible opportunity.

#### **4. What is the purpose and lawful basis of collecting my data?**

- 4.1 Undertaking research, publishing research and training students to undertake research are tasks that are in the public interest. Universities undertake these activities so that they can fulfil their function as a Higher Education institution. Some types of research will require the collection of personal data including,

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that will be provided to you before you agree to participate in the research.

- 6.3 At times our research may be audited and access to the data may be required. AECC UC puts in place safeguards to ensure that audits are conducted in a secure and confidential manner.

## **7. How does the University College protect the data?**

- 7.1 In order to protect your rights and freedoms when using your personal information for research and to process special category (sensitive) information, the University College must have safeguards in place to help protect that data. The University College takes the security of your personal data very seriously and it has policies, procedures, training, technical and organisational measures in place to ensure that your information is protected. All research projects or studies involving personal data that has been identified/deemed higher risk are scrutinised and approved by a research ethics committee.

- 7.2 In accordance with data protection law, we will meet the following standards when we conduct research with your personal information:

- The research will not cause damage or distress to someone (e.g., physical harm, financial loss or psychological pain);
- The research is not carried out in order to do or decide something in relation to an individual person, unless the processing is for medical research approved by a research ethics committee;
- AECC University College (as the controller) has technical and organisational safeguards in place (e.g. appropriate staff training and security measures); and
- When we process special category personal data, this is subject to a further public interest test to make sure this particularly sensitive information is required to meet the research objectives

## **8. How long is my data kept?**

- 8.1 If you take part in a research project, you will be provided with a Participant Information Sheet that will outline in more detail how long the data in an identifiable form will be held for and, where applicable, the re- use of the data.

- 8.2 Data will be kept for a minimum amount of time in accordance with research objectives and, in some cases, funder requirements.

## **9. Data Subject's Rights**

- 9.1 Under Data Protection legislation you have the following rights:

- x to request access to, and copies of, the personal data that we hold about you;
- x to request that we cease processing your personal data;
- x to request that we do not send you any marketing communications;
- x to request us to correct the personal data we hold about you if it is incorrect;
- x to request that we erase your personal data;

- 9.1.1 to request that we restrict our data processing activities (and, where our processing is based on your consent, you may withdraw that consent, without affecting the lawfulness of our processing based on consent before its withdrawal);

- 9.1.2 to receive from us the personal data you have provided to us, in a reasonable format specified by you, to another data controller;

9.1.3 to object, on grounds relating to your particular situation, to any of our particular processing activities where you feel this has a disproportionate impact on your rights and freedoms.

9.2 It is important to understand that the extent to which these rights apply to research will vary and that in some circumstances a right may be limited when the data is being used for research purposes. It should also be noted that we can only implement your rights during the period upon which we hold personal identifiable information about you. Once the information has been irreversibly de-identified or anonymised and becomes part of the research data set, it will not be possible to access your personal information.

9.3 If you would like to exercise any of these rights or have any questions regarding your rights, please contact the University College's Data Protection Officer, using the contact details under Section 10 below.

## 10. How to raise a query, concern or complaint

10.1 If you have questions about the particular research study you are participating in, please use any contact details you have already been supplied with regarding the research study or project.

10.2 If you have general queries, concerns or wish to raise a complaint about how your personal data is used by the University College, or if you wish to exercise any of your rights, you should contact the Data Protection Officer in the first instance, using the contact details under Section 2 above.

If you remain dissatisfied, then you have the right to refer the matter to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). The ICO can be contacted at:  
Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Telephone: 0303 123 1113 Website: [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk)

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