



Knowing your rights when taking part in research

It's important to understand what your rights are when you agree to take part in research. Sharing your views in research can be extremely valuable, in making sure that young people's voices are heard.

On the next page is a list of some questions for you to consider when you are asked to take part in research.

If when going through these questions you realise you don't have some of the answers, check in with the researchers to get the answers. If you're then not happy with the answers, remember that you don't need to take part and if you do, you can withdraw at any time.

This list is not intended to cover every question you might have, but to give you a few ideas of questions you may wish to ask before taking part in research – whether that is a survey, a focus group, or an interview.

Remember your rights are protected in law in Scotland, we have suggested the main UNCRC articles that relate to your rights when taking part in research (see table below).

United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 12

Every child has the right to express their views



RESPECT FOR
CHILDREN'S VIEWS

Article 13

Every child must be free to express their thoughts and opinions



SHARING
THOUGHTS FREELY

Article 16

Every child has the right to privacy



PROTECTION
OF PRIVACY

Article 17

Every child has the right to reliable information



ACCESS TO
INFORMATION

	Questions	UNCRC articles
Knowledge	Who is doing the research?	12 17
	Has the purpose of the research been clearly explained?	12 17
Recognition	What will you get from being part of the research?	12
Respect	What is happening with the data (information you have shared)? How will you find out the results of the research?	16 17 12
	How will your data be reported?	16
	What support is being offered to you when taking part in the research? E.g. if the research is on a sensitive topic are you being signposted to support organisations?	12 13
	If in person (for example focus groups and interviews) are there: Additional safety checks – physical and emotional – how will you feel safe? Will your needs be met? Has it been made clear to you that you can stop at any time? Are you in a place which is safe and comfortable for you?	12 13 16
Consent	Do you have an opportunity to provide your own informed consent?	16
	Do you know if you will remain anonymous in this research? If yes, how are the researchers protecting your identify? Will it be possible to withdraw your data later? If you are not anonymous, how will you be identified and are you comfortable to be identified in this way? Will you have final sign off on any quotes you have shared?	16
	Do you know how to withdraw from the research? Do you know how to contact the research team if you have any concerns or questions?	17
	If all of your questions have been answered are you happy to proceed?	13