

# DMP for Postgraduate Research

A **Data Management Plan (DMP)** outlines how research data will be handled throughout the lifecycle of a research project. Use this overview and the linked discussion guides to help postgraduate students plan, review and update a research DMP at key project stages. This supports good research practice and aligns with institutional and funder requirements for responsible research data management.

## Prepare for research data management

Research data management (RDM) requirements can be complex and dynamic. Help your students to start their research journey with the right support and training.

### Activities

- Encourage students to attend RDM and/or DMP training.
- Attend a supervisor-focused RDM workshop to understand your RDM responsibilities as a supervisor.

### Resources

- [DMP overview for students](#) 
- [RDM training opportunities](#) 

## Develop an initial Data Management Plan (DMP)

Establish roles, requirements and practical plans before data are created or collected.

### Activities

- Students can draft the initial DMP in the online DMP tool, then review it with their supervisors.
- Use **Discussion Guide 1** to check for completeness and clarify responsibilities. Remember, a DMP is a living document, and its details may evolve as the project progresses.
- Supervisors should provide feedback and oversee any updates required before data collection.

### Resources

- [Guidance on ResearchHub](#) 
- [Explore the DMP tool](#) 
- [Discussion Guide 1: Initial Review](#) 
- [Request an RDM consult](#) 

## Review and update the DMP (as required)

Update the DMP to reflect what was actually collected and how it was managed, and document processing and analysis. This helps prevent data loss and will save time in the future.

### Activities

- Schedule DMP check-ins after data collection and analysis.
- Use **Discussion Guide 2** to update methods, tools, storage, access, and documentation.
- Use **Discussion Guide 3** to confirm documentation of processing, provenance/versioning and analysis outputs.

### Resources

- [Discussion Guide 2: After data collection](#) 
- [Discussion Guide 3: After data analysis](#) 

## Final review before thesis submission

Finalise retention, archiving, access conditions, licensing, and custodianship. A complete DMP reduces future effort and costs related to data access, retrieval or interpretation.

### Activities

- Use **Discussion Guide 4** to confirm post-project arrangements (retention, data access, custodianship).

### Resources

- [Discussion Guide 4: Final review](#) 

For more information and resources visit...

**ResearchHub** Research data management planning

or scan

