Share your ideas with the world

research data management for PGR students

The University of Bristol Research Data Service helps researchers to create, use and publish research data, making it easy to share your ideas and maximise research impact. Email us at data-bris@bristol.ac.uk for more info or visit

data.bris.ac.uk/research

What is research data?

Research data underpins research claims; it is information created as a direct result of 'doing your research'. It excludes teaching materials and administrative documents. Research data comes in an endless variety of formats, depending on your discipline. Examples are: a scan of a historical document, a spreadsheet of experimental results or a digital video of an interview.

What is research data management?

Research data management often involves:

- Creating a Data Management Plan (DMP) which is often submitted along with a research funding application to explain how your data will be managed both during and after a project.

- Storing research data safely and securely throughout a project and sharing it with authorised collaborators.

- At the end of a project, sorting data and making a selection openly available for a number of years.

Why manage research data?

Managing research data increases the value of research, improves research visibility and increases citation rates. Also, managing and opening up research data is now a requirement of most major research funders and many academic publishers.

What can I do?

If your research is externally funded you should ensure you read and comply with the funder's policy on research data.

We recommend you create a Data Management Plan at the start of your project to record how you will create, manage and store your research data during your project. Your Data Management Plan should be reviewed on a regular basis.

What help is available?

The University Research Data Service offers a lot of help and guidance through their website, including:

- An online tutorial to introduce you to the fundamental aspects of research data management.

- Training workshops on creating Data Management Plans.

- Advice on how to publish your research data at the end of your project.

The team are also available to provide 1:1 advice and support around particular aspects of research data management.

For more information please visit data.bris.ac.uk/research or email data-bris@bristol.ac.uk