Data Management Plans

**Why are Data Management Plans important?**

Data Management Plans (DMPs) are required by most funding bodies to ensure all aspects of research data management are fully considered at the start of a research project. Increasingly, external funders evaluate DMPs to calculate the impact of your grant application. Lancaster University's Research Data Policy also requires DMPs as part of good research practice.

**What is a Data Management Plan?**

Data Management Plans (DMPs) usually differ by a small degree between various funding bodies. In general however, they all expect the following:

* Description of the data to be collected / created
* Standards / methodologies for data collection, management, security and backup
* Ethics and intellectual property considerations
* Plans for data sharing and access
* Strategy for long-term preservation

**What support is available at Lancaster University?**

* There is extensive guidance on our DMP website and we offer example DMPs in our DMP Library (<http://www.lancaster.ac.uk/library/rdm/what-is-rdm/plan/dmp/dmp-library/>)
* We recommend that you create your DMP (<http://www.lancaster.ac.uk/library/rdm/what-is-rdm/plan/dmp/>) using the online tool DMPonline (https://dmponline.dcc.ac.uk) which includes templates of all major funders' and Lancaster University's DMP template. You will find useful guidance as well as proposed answers.
* We can review your DMP for you to give you feedback on completeness and quality. Please send your DMP to rdm@lancaster.ac.uk and allow us two days to review your plan.
* If you have never written a DMP and are unsure what to do, we can sit down with you and talk you through the plan. To arrange this 1-1 support please email [rdm@lancaster.ac.uk](mailto:rdm@lancaster.ac.uk)