

ARP 2024-5 Ethical Action Plan

Name of practitioner-researcher:

1. What is your project focus?

Designing an Inclusive and Equitable Creative Tech Lab for Pre-Degree-Level Art and Design Students. How can the design of the Creative Tech Lab ensure inclusivity, accessibility, and social justice for a diverse cohort of foundation-level art and design students? As currently I have moved building, from Camberwell to Lime Grove, the next couple of months, I will be solely designing a new Creative Tech Lab as it has been delayed and my interactions with students will be limited.

During the process of this project the space will be open to students so I will try and implement some of my findings in the space.

2. What are you going to read about?

I'm primarily interested in the ethics of space - literature on how physical spaces can be designed to promote inclusivity and accessibility for students of diverse abilities and backgrounds. Also resources focused on integrating social justice principles into learning environments, specifically related to equitable access to technology and creative tools.

Also literature on current technical areas/maker spaces and their benefits and disadvantages.

3. What action are you going to take in your teaching practice?

I will integrate ethical and inclusive design principles into the physical layout and functionality of the lab. This means creating flexible workstations, ensuring accessibility for students with disabilities, and designing clear protocols for using the technology safely and efficiently. By designing the space with all students in mind I will foster collaboration across various art and design disciplines, helping students from different backgrounds to engage with each other and share their knowledge. I will design the lab in a way that allows for future modifications based on feedback from users, ensuring that the space remains adaptable to the changing needs of students and technology over time.

For the duration of this project my focus is to get the space open for student use, even if that means it'll be in an unfinished state. My focus is to get this state at good as it can be in the limited time frame.

4. Who will be involved and how?

Primarily other technical staff that will also be designing the spaces. I can also contact other technicians from different campuses to get their input. Also other teaching staff who will interact with the space. Potentially passed students to see how they feel the space could have been improved.

I will gather data from technical staff across UAL in the form of a questionnaire and I will also conduct site visits to other technical areas across UAL.

N.B. If any of your participants/co-researchers will be under 18, please seek advice from your tutor.

5. What are the health & safety concerns, and how will you prepare for them?

Many health and safety concerns with designing the space, for example – correct ventilation for machinery, safe systems of work, clear evacuation routes etc.

In terms of gathering data, I will be visiting other sites across UAL so I will make sure to follow all safety protocols while being in a working technical space.

6. How will you protect the data of those involved?

All data collected from feedback or consultations will be anonymized to protect the identities of the participants. This includes any surveys, interviews, or informal discussions with stakeholders. I will obtain verbal or written consent from all participants involved in consultations or feedback sessions.

7. How will you work with your participants in an ethical way?

I will seek informed consent from all participants involved in consultations or feedback sessions before collecting any input, I will clearly explain the purpose of the project, how their feedback will be used, and how their data will be protected. Participants will have the option to opt out at any stage. I will actively seek input from different staff members who work with a range of students, including those with varying abilities, disciplines, and backgrounds. **When working with technicians across other sites I will discuss with them when would be the best time to visit to minimise disruption.**