

Guidelines for Researchers
Conducting Research at the Ben & Maxine Miller Child Development Laboratory School
(Revised 05/11/23)

1. Please be familiar with the Code of Ethics of the Society for Research in Child Development for conducting research with children. We expect all research conducted at MCDLS to strictly follow these ethical guidelines.
2. The principal investigator must provide a copy of the approved IRB application for the proposed research, plus a completed Research Summary Form for posting at the school. The research project must receive written permission from the Director before beginning to recruit subjects. Approval is based on an assessment of the importance of the research, the workload and potential stress for children, parents, and/or teachers, and compatibility with other ongoing research projects.
3. Participation in research will be strictly voluntary for teachers, parents, and children. It is the researcher's responsibility to fully inform each classroom teacher and each parent in writing about the goals and procedures of the research study. All participating teachers and parents must sign an informed consent form and receive a copy to keep.
4. If young children give any verbal or nonverbal indications that they are reluctant to participate in the research, the researcher should immediately stop the procedure, calmly return the child to the teacher in charge in the child's room and inform the teacher that the child does not wish to participate.
5. All procedures and incentives to be used with children must be described in detail in the Human Subjects application provided to the school. **NO CANDY OR OTHER FOOD SHOULD BE GIVEN TO CHILDREN AS AN INCENTIVE OR REWARD FOR PARTICIPATING IN RESEARCH.** (Research that centrally involves children eating any food must be pre-approved.) It is acceptable to give small non-food gifts to children who participate, but they must be described in the informed consent form for parents and approved by the classroom Head Teachers before they are given to children.
6. If children participate in tasks or interviews that involve interaction with the researcher (other than naturalistic classroom observations that include no direct interaction), the researcher will leave a note informing each participating child's parent in the child's cubby or mailbox that day. The note should include:
 - a. Name of the research project and the researcher.
 - b. Contact information for the researcher in case parents have questions.
 - c. A brief description of what the child did that day in the research project.
7. By receiving permission to conduct research in the school, you agree that when your research is finished you will provide the MCDLS teaching staff and parents with a one-page summary and/or a 30-minute presentation of the results and implications of your study. This should be given in a form that is comprehensible and useful to an informed public.

I agree to follow the above guidelines while conducting my research at the Ben & Maxine Miller Child Development Laboratory School. Please sign and return it to the Director of the Ben & Maxine Miller Child Development Laboratory School. Retain a copy for your files and to inform your data collectors.

Full name (print)

Title

Signature

Date