

RESEARCH INTEGRITY AND ACADEMIC INDEPENDENCE POLICY

VG-RES-012-PUB



PURPOSE

This policy supports honest, transparent and appropriately independent research and technical work undertaken or supported by Valhalla.

PUBLIC COMMITMENT

- Research records and results should be accurate, traceable and not deliberately fabricated, falsified or suppressed.
- Commercial interests may shape the research question but must not dictate a predetermined result.
- Project governance is scaled to risk while respecting applicable university, ethics and professional requirements.

STATUS	Published
POLICY OWNER	Managing Director
PROPOSED APPROVER	Valhalla Board
PUBLICATION	Published v1.0

1. Application and governance approach

Valhalla is an Australian-based private company. This document is applied in a practical and adaptable manner, with controls suited to the nature and risk of the activity. The Managing Director may set or adjust implementation arrangements, subject to law, contracts and matters reserved to the Valhalla Board. Ordinary operations may proceed within approved budgets and delegations. A significant departure from ordinary operations, material change, unusual commitment, new jurisdiction or matter outside approved authority must be documented and approved before implementation, including by the Valhalla Board where required.

The level of project planning, review and documentation may differ between an early technical study and formal university research. Where a partner institution, ethics approval, funding agreement or professional standard sets a higher requirement, that requirement applies.

2. Responsible conduct

- use methods reasonably suited to the question and document material deviations;
- retain sufficient information to explain the source, transformation and interpretation of material data;
- distinguish observed evidence from interpretation, hypothesis and prediction;
- report material uncertainty, limitations, null results and contrary evidence;
- give appropriate credit and avoid plagiarism or improper authorship; and
- correct significant errors when identified.

3. Academic and technical independence

Valhalla and its partners may agree objectives, budgets, milestones and commercial priorities. A sponsor may review proposed publications for confidential information, intellectual property and factual accuracy, but must not require fabrication, selective reporting or suppression of a valid adverse result.

Where a commercial or personal interest could affect judgement, the conflict should be disclosed and managed under the Conflicts of Interest Principles.

4. Ethics, participants and students

Human-participant, personal-information, Indigenous or other regulated research must not begin before the required approvals and permissions are in place. Student supervision, assessment and progression remain subject to the rules of the relevant institution. Commercial timelines should allow reasonable compliance with ethics, thesis and academic requirements.

5. Data, AI and reproducibility

Research data, code and AI-assisted methods should be managed under the applicable data, privacy, security and responsible AI documents. The degree of reproducibility and independent review should reflect the significance of the result and how it will be used.

6. Concerns and correction

Concerns may be raised with the Managing Director, a project lead, a non-conflicted director or the relevant partner institution. Valhalla may seek independent advice or refer the matter to an institution where it has the appropriate authority or expertise. The response should be fair, confidential where practicable and proportionate to the seriousness of the concern.

Related documents

- University and Research Collaboration Principles
- Research Data Governance Principles
- Responsible AI and Exploration Assurance Statement
- IP, Publication, Authorship and Student Rights Principles

Document control and approval

Public reference	VG-RES-012-PUB	Version	1.0
Status	Published	Publication	Published v1.0
Policy owner	Managing Director	Proposed approver	Valhalla Board
Approved by	C.Dubieniecki	Approved date	August 12th 2026
Review cycle	Bi-Annually or as board requires	Review date	August 12th 2028
Internal source	Research Integrity and Academic Independence Policy		

PUBLICATION CONTROL Published v1.0. This is the current website publication. Procedures may be adapted proportionately, but any substantive amendment to the published commitments requires controlled review, approval and versioning.