

Keep it real – making things honest

People will want to know that you have done a good job in your action research project. You will need people to trust your work and to respect it if you want them to see it as important.

There are lots of ways of persuading people that your work is real and honest. For example, you can:

- make sure you have not made your mind up about anything before you start your project
- check that everyone involved understands what you are working on and why
- make sure everyone understands the ideas, words and phrases that are important to your research in the same way
- make sure the story you tell people about your research grows directly from the things you saw and heard and the things people said
- collect points of view from different people
- use different ways of finding things out
- get different people in the team to find things out
- explain where things agree and where they don't
- keep careful, accurate records
- check ideas with the people who have helped you with your research to make sure they agree with how you are telling their story
- explain clearly how you did your work
- explain clearly what you found out
- use evidence (photographs, video, things you saw, things people said) to help you tell the story of your research.