

# Thinking guides

Sheet no.	Title	Notes
SS1	Interrogate sources	Use this to check how reliable a source is
SS2	Estimate risks thinking guide	Use this to weigh up risks and benefits of a technology
SS3	Use ethics	This helps you to make an ethical decision



# Interrogate sources checklist

Add ticks to show if the source contains evidence of reliability.

Count up the number of ticks in each column. The more there are, the more reliable the source is.

## Evidence of reliability

**Write in the name of the source at the top of each column.**

The authors are qualified scientists

Any research mentioned has been published in a peer-reviewed journal

The research is recent (< 5 years old)

The researcher or funder will not benefit from the source (e.g. by making money)

It is not biased (favours one opinion)

It contains a scientific explanation of the findings

The findings are backed up by other research

The research was based on a lot of data

# Estimate risks thinking guide

Use your sources to choose two benefits and two risks of the action.  
Add up the scores and compare. Do the benefits outweigh the risks?

Benefit	
Size of benefit	1 2 3
Likelihood of it happening	1 2 3
Size x likelihood	

Risk	
Size of risk (seriousness)	1 2 3
Likelihood of it happening	1 2 3
Size x likelihood	

Benefit	
Size of benefit	1 2 3
Likelihood of it happening	1 2 3
Size x likelihood	

Risk	
Size of risk (seriousness)	1 2 3
Likelihood of it happening	1 2 3
Size x likelihood	

**Total score  
for benefits**

**Total score  
for risks**



# Use ethics thinking guide

Ethical thinking help us to decide is something is right or wrong.  
Rights and duties is one type of thinking we can use.



## Rights and Duties

### Follow rules

**Do not worry about the outcome.**

Base your decisions on rules which you believe should always be followed, for instance:

- It is wrong to lie or cheat
- It is wrong to steal
- All living things have the right to life
- All humans have a right to good health
- Help others
- Respect people's opinions

### Example:

- A man's wife is very ill but he cannot afford the medicine to cure her. On a hospital visit he sees it in an unlocked cupboard.

**Should he take it?**

### What to do:

**1** List the rules that are relevant:

It is wrong to steal

All humans have a right to good health

Help others

**3** Follow the rule

**2** Decide which rule is most important to you

Leave it

Take it