

Golden Rules for Human Remains

1. We comply fully with any law relating to the disturbance and excavation of human remains
2. We do not disturb human remains without good cause.
3. We do not excavate human remains without good cause.
4. We keep human remains covered on-site except when actually excavating them.
5. We exercise care and sensitivity at all times when handling the remains and treat them with respect and dignity.
6. We excavate, handle, clean and store human remains according to the best practices known to us.
7. We only permit the destructive testing of human remains in exceptional circumstances, but only if the scientific benefits can be clearly identified by our academic partner(s) and the Trustees agree that the benefits outweigh the loss/damage to the skeletal material.
8. We handle human remains such that we do not jeopardise the results of any reasonable scientific technique that might be applied to them (for example, extraction of ancient DNA or carbon14 dating).
9. We examine, measure and record human remains to the best standards and practices of which we are capable and known to us.
10. We are informally overseen by our academic partners (UoL and LJMU) and are willing to be formally audited by them.
11. We require anyone to whom we may pass the human remains to fully observe all of the above.
12. We ensure all the remains are ultimately reburied in an appropriate way.