Assessment Question (1,500 words)

Critically evaluate the ethical considerations associated with conducting a dissertation project involving children and young people as participants.

In your answer, you should critically explore the ethical, professional, and methodological issues that may arise throughout the research process, from recruitment and informed consent to data collection, analysis, storage, and dissemination. Your discussion may include consideration of:

- informed consent and assent
- parental/carer consent
- safeguarding and duty of care
- power dynamics and participant vulnerability
- confidentiality, anonymity, and data protection
- managing distress, disclosure, or risk
- inclusivity, accessibility, and cultural sensitivity
- online and digital research ethics
- researcher positionality and reflexivity
- ethical considerations in qualitative and/or quantitative methodologies
- professional boundaries and responsibilities
- the ethical implications of dissemination and representation of children and young people's voices

Your discussion should demonstrate critical engagement with relevant ethical frameworks, professional guidance, and research governance principles relating to research with children and young people. You should move beyond procedural ethics and critically examine the complexities, tensions, and dilemmas involved in conducting ethically responsible research with children and young people.