

Encryption

The encryption process allows your data to be stored in a format that is not readable unless you have the decryption key. This is very important as if for example, your tablet was stolen or someone accessed your server, they would not be able to see the data. To encrypt and decrypt the forms you need a public key which you enter into the Excel form and a private key, to decrypt the data. The private key should be kept on a USB thumb drive in a locked room, safe or filing cabinet.

You can create your own keys using the openSSL software or please refer to our guidelines on Github. Alternatively, we can provide keys and will keep a copy in our locked safe. Please email odk@lshtm.ac.uk. The keys will be sent to you via Whatsapp or face to face. In the next session we will go through how to make a form including how to make keys for encryption.