**Standard for archaeological excavation**

**An archaeological excavation will examine, record and report on the archaeological resource within a specified area using methods that are described in a project design1 that is fit for purpose. The work undertaken must be carried out by suitably competent persons in accordance with that project design, the CIfA Code of conduct and give due regard to the guidance for archaeological excavation. All archaeological excavations will result in a report, a stable, ordered, accessible archive and one or more published accounts.**

# Definition of archaeological excavation

Archaeological excavation involves a programme of intrusive fieldwork with defined research objectives which examines, records, and interprets archaeological deposits, features, and structures and, as appropriate, retrieves artefacts, ecofacts and other remains within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater. The records made, data generated, and materials gathered during fieldwork are studied and the results published in accordance with the project design. The work will result in the preparation of a report, one or more published accounts and a stable, ordered, accessible archive.