

## DAY 4: ENFORCING DATA INTEGRITY

Data integrity can be enforced by adding constraints such as Primary key, Unique, Null, Not Null, Foreign Key etc. to the column name when creating the table e.g.

```
CREATE TABLE students_record (  
  student_id INT NOT NULL,  
  Student_name VARCHAR(60) NOT NULL,  
  Date_of_birth VARCHAR(60)  
);
```

The UNIQUE or PRIMARY KEY constraints require that a column or set of columns contains unique values. The NOT NULL constraint prevents the use of null values within a column, and the FOREIGN KEY constraint is concerned with how data in one table relates to data in another table, which is why it is known as a *referential constraint*.

Note that null means a value is not known. It is not the same as a zero, a blank, an empty string, or a default value. Instead, it indicates that a data value is absent.