



# Virtual Café Culture

With lots of researchers now working remotely, we've put together a Café Culture Online pack to help you have a virtual conversation about research culture.

Thanks to [Reproducibilitea](#) for some of their tips!

## Joining a virtual Café Culture

- You'll need a video conferencing platform that everyone you're inviting can access. Use one that allows you to share your screen and/or live documents. Ideally, it should allow you to view several people at once.
- The activity will be shared via a live PowerPoint document, so make sure you have received the link to this as well as the 'Welcome to Café Culture' page.
- Your host will need to act as chair, and call on people to speak who have their 'hands up'. You could do this physically on video, in text chat with a '!', or through the 'hand raised' function if your chosen platform supports this.
- Join promptly so technical issues can be sorted out quickly and introductions given.
- If you have background noise, mute your audio – otherwise keep it on to allow the conversation to flow.

## Hosting a virtual Café Culture

- As the host you'll need to choose a video conferencing platform, schedule a meeting and share the link with participants. Include a password to enter the meeting if you can do so.
- Read the 'Hosting your Café Culture' page and distribute the 'Welcome to Café Culture' page to participants in advance.
- We will send you the Virtual Café Culture PowerPoint file. Upload this to Sharepoint or another cloud platform and share a link with participants so they can access the live document.
- When the meeting starts, 'claim host' by pressing the button in the participants window if your chosen platform has this function.
- You will need to be an active chair, ensuring everyone has a chance to speak. You can call on people to speak who have their 'hands up'. They can do this physically on video, in text chat with a '!', or through the 'hand raised' if your chosen platform supports this.
- Some of the topics involved will touch on deeply personal experiences and may be difficult to discuss. Give plenty of time for people to respond – it takes an extra few seconds to do this in a remote session. Don't worry if it feels like there are long silences.
- Follow the discussion guide on the slides.