

Covid19: remote mentoring Advice for mentors and students

In light of the global COVID-19 pandemic, mentors and students must follow the local advice. Mentoring support should be offered but all mentoring should be conducted remotely and not through face to face meetings.

How do I mentor remotely?

Mentors and students can use video conferencing software, such as Zoom, Skype, Google Meet. If this is not possible, the mentor and student can call each other using any available software WhatsApp, Face Time.

What if I mentor several students and have group meetings?

It is possible to have group meetings remotely with students joining from different locations (Zoom, Skype, Google Meet have this facility). If you are involved in this form of meeting, think about how the on-line meeting space works, consider whether the group needs to agree how people will contribute, ask people to be respectful and not talk over each other. This is good practice in meetings.

What about the presentation?

In the third meeting with their mentor students are expected to present the findings of their research. The slides used for the presentation are upload and assessed by OBU. This will continue to be the case.

For the actual presentation, we suggest

- Where possible, use some form of video conference technology that could live stream a presentation
- If that is not possible, the student sends the mentor the slides and then has a telephone call to discuss the findings
- If that is not possible the student sends the mentor the notes that they would have used in their presentation

The student can still practice delivering the presentation on their own.

What about the Skills and Learning Statement?

Q1 in the Skills and Learning Statement is

Reflect on what you have learnt from the meetings with your Mentor, including the presentation that you gave to your Mentor?

In this reflection, students may focus on what they learnt about being adaptable, how the remote/on-line space works. Students can also reflect on their preparations for their presentation.

All markers will be advised of this guidance and students will not be penalised if they are unable to make a formal presentation to their mentor. They will be expected to submit the slides they have produced.

This material has been produced to support students it must not be copied and pasted into a RAP.