Academic Poster Guidance

Posters can be used to communicate your research for a variety of different audiences and locations. This can include for display in school, a local library or at an event or conference. Please read the general submission guidelines as these also apply to posters.

Choose a size of poster that is most appropriate for where it is going to be displayed. They can range in size from A3 to A0. A lot of information can fit onto an A0 poster but there is much less room on an A3 poster, so it is important to plan the poster content carefully.

Your poster should have a logical flow, be easy to read and visually attractive. Headings should be clearly different to the rest of the text, e.g. use bold or italic fonts or underline heading titles. Don’t use large blocks of text, break it up into bullet points and short sentences and use the same font throughout and be consistent with font size. Remember to be careful with your choice of font colour and background to make it easy for the reader.

The sections included in a poster will be similar to the ones in an article but will be much shorter. For example:

- Title
- Author(s)
- Summary/abstract
- Background
- Research questions
- Methods
- Results
- Conclusions & future directions and references
- Acknowledgements

The length of these sections will depend on the size of the poster being prepared.

- When presenting the results, graphs and charts may be easier to read than tables full of numbers.
- Ensure that any diagrams, images or graphs have a high resolution (e.g. 300 pixels per square inch).
- Any images used should be copyright free and credited.

You should also include images and references that are appropriately credited.

At the bottom of the poster you could also include logos e.g. school, and any organisations that have provided support. Please submit an editable version of your work via our website.