Working with Neuro-Diverse Artists Online

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This video details specific individual’s experiences with using online platforms.

**Individual’s Preferred Platforms**

* **Zoom** is the contributors’ preferred platform for online meetings.
* Zoom has the **simplest user interface** and is the platform the contributors are most **familiar** with.

**Best Practice Guidance & Tips**

* The host of the meeting needs to **be aware of participants’ access** **requirements** beforehand. Don’t wait until you are in the meeting to do this.
* Make space to allow for **processing time** and schedule **breaks**.
* Try to **avoid using the chat function** for conversations or relaying information. Set clear boundaries on this at the start of your meeting.
* **Be understanding** if a participant interrupts, or engages in a different way to a neurotypical participant, that this is not rudeness.
* Set clear **instructions**, **boundaries** and **expectations**.
* Be aware that some participants may find the experience of having lots of people on a zoom screen difficult.
* Understand that **people pay attention in different ways**.
* Create a space where emotion, different ways of engaging, and bringing one’s whole self, is **embraced** and not treated as unprofessional.
* Make sure that **trivialising or casual language** surrounding mental health access requirements **is avoided or challenged**. This is important and best practice for all your work.
* **Content warnings** for challenging topics should be provided in advance.
* Consider setting up breakout rooms with **access support** available, including **trained listening support**.
* Consider collective **check-ins**.
* Make sure it is clear that participants can take part with their **cameras and/or microphones off** if this is what they need.
* If you are asking an individual to share their lived experience with you to inform your practice, you must book and **pay them as a consultant**.
* If you’re creating work online, make sure you **consider access from the inception of your project**.
* **Ask** people what they need, **listen**, and make sure you **allow time** to put appropriate support in place.

**Additional Resources:**

Zoom Help Desk
<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us>

Vocal Eyes Resources
<https://vocaleyes.co.uk/services/resources>

Graeae Resources
<https://graeae.org/about/resources/>