

What is it?

A web-based tool that enables tutors to share presentations and learning interactions with students' mobile devices during a teaching session

How does it work?

1. Before the session, you create an account at nearpod.com and make your presentation and/or interactive activities; the interface is easy to use, allowing you to upload PowerPoint slides and images, and create interactions for the students to undertake and discuss in the session (e.g. quizzes, image hot-spot, free-text reply)
2. During the session, using either the web browser on the main computer, or having downloaded the free [nearpod mobile app](#) on your own tablet computer, you log in and run your presentation as a live session
3. Students view your slides on their own laptop or mobile device, via the nearpod app or a web browser, and they complete any learning activities (you can see their responses live on your own device)

Why would I use it?

- You control what the students see and when (when you move to the next slide, all the students' device screen change)
- The slides and interactions are all together in one presentation (you don't have to switch between PowerPoint and web pages)
- Can use it in any learning environment (with wireless access) without having to use a main projector or where it is poor quality – students have very clear visuals in front of them
- Good for smaller group teaching where you can make use of interactions, multimedia, and discussion
- Easy to create slides with multimedia and interactions
- Free basic account, easy-to-use interface, contemporary methodology making use of devices that students are already using

What could go wrong?

You and the students must have internet connection on your computer/devices (wired / 3G / Wifi; there is free Eduroam Wifi in at the universities and the AEB)

Mobile devices will need to have enough battery charge to last the session

You need to manage students' expectations and interactions with mobile devices during the session

Does it actually work?

Yes. Many tutors are finding that it is a tool that provides a contemporary and engaging means of sharing information and monitoring students' progress during a session. Student feedback is also positive. As with any tool, you will need a bit of time to work out and test but it is simple and easy to use.

Does it cost?

The [basic account](#) is free and allows up to 30 students per live session; features beyond this have price plans. (The University of Brighton is currently running a pilot of this software to determine if there is enough interest to warrant an institutional licence).

How do I get it?

Sign up at the [nearpod website](#) and have a play. If you have any other questions, the website has [helpful guides](#) or if you would like a demo, do contact me, Tim Vincent (t.r.vincent@bsms.ac.uk 01273 644501)