

Poster Presentation Guidelines

Congratulations on being selected for a poster presentation at the Appearance Matters conference in June 2026. Please take the time to read the poster presentation guidance below.

Don't forget to register for the conference by 1 May 2026. You can register via the [conference website](#).

All poster presenters are required to bring a printed physical copy of their poster to the conference. Posters should be ready for display at the scheduled "Poster Session Set-Up" times listed in the [scientific programme](#). Please note that printing facilities will not be provided on-site.

Creating your content

- We recommend a poster size of A0 (84cm x 118cm) - portrait orientation only.
- Poster boards (approx. 100cm x 150cm) will be set up for you to display your poster on.
- Posters that do not fit within these dimensions may not be allowed to be displayed.
- If you use the whole of the poster board, delegates may find it hard to read what is at the bottom of your poster. Try to make your poster as easy to read as possible.
- Make sure you clearly display the title of your project, your name, your department or faculty and your institution at the top of your poster.
- Avoid overcrowding your poster by keeping bullet points to a minimum and text concise. Include images where possible (and ensure you have permission to use them) - these can replace text. Please use images that do not rely heavily on a UK cultural context to convey a meaning, as we have an international audience.
- Use a legible font and size [at least 28 PT] to ensure the text is legible from a good distance. Please do not use Serif fonts.
- Do not use colour combinations that others may struggle to distinguish between, e.g., red and green, green and brown, yellow and white, green and blue etc. Check your colour choices using [WebAIM's](#) contrast checker.
- For sustainability purposes, we recommend **not** bringing additional A4 paper handouts copies of your poster.
- When you have finished creating your poster, you can use [Accessibility](#) checker in Microsoft Office to check accessibility issues and the [Hemingway App](#) to check your language is clear and straightforward.

How to make an academic poster in powerpoint

A note on language

We acknowledge that there are ongoing debates over language, within and outside our communities and activists, and welcome informative and productive conversations about this at the conference. We request that your choice of words is inclusive and respectful when you present your work.

- For example, we recommend using the term ‘visible difference’ rather than ‘deformity’, or ‘higher weight’ rather than ‘obesity’. Here are some related resources you may find helpful:
 - [Journal Article Reporting Standards for Race, Ethnicity, and Culture \(JARS–REC\) \(apa.org\)](https://apa.org/jars-rec)
 - <https://disabilityunion.co.uk/person-first-or-identity-first-the-importance-of-language/>
 - <https://www.nih.gov/about-nih/what-we-do/science-health-public-trust/perspectives/writing-respectfully-person-first-identity-first-language>
 - What words should we use to talk about weight? A systematic review of quantitative and qualitative studies examining preferences for weight-related terminology: https://media.ruddcenter.uconn.edu/PDFs/Puhl-2020-Obesity_Reviews.pdf
 - <https://asdah.org/health-at-every-size-haes-approach/>
 - <https://weightandhealthcare.substack.com/p/inclusive-language-for-higher-weight>
 - <https://www.changingfaces.org.uk/about-visible-difference/what-is-visible-difference/>
- Use gender-neutral language to refer to your participants where appropriate, if you have a mixed gender group.
- Contextualise your work e.g., if your participants are all white British and able bodied, be explicit and mindful of this when reporting findings (i.e., whom your work is representative of and whom it generalises to).
- Be mindful of jargon and avoid/minimise colloquialisms and idioms where possible, as some audience members may not be familiar with them. If you do use these in your presentation e.g., it is part of presenting your findings, please provide additional context or explanation to situate this and clarify meaning.
- Please be careful in making assumptions about your audience when interacting with them (e.g., when answering questions about your poster) - some aspects of diversity are not visible. Please refrain from ableist assumptions and language, as well as assumptions related to sexual and gender identity and class.

Delivering your poster presentation in person

Please note the time of your poster presentation session(s) and be present during your session(s). Please also note the set-up and take-down times in the conference programme. If you do not take down your poster during the allocated time, we will take it down for you to avoid disruption to the main conference.

We look forward to welcoming you in June and hearing more about your research. If you have any queries, please contact CAR@uwe.ac.uk.