

Mahara Help

Student guide:

Using Mahara eportfolios

Mahara is an online eportfolio tool that you can use during your time at University for your course or for your own personal and professional development.

During your time at University, you will

- study many different modules
- undertake extra-curricular activities
- make new friends and contacts
- apply for work and/or placements
- develop personal and professional skills ready for your next move

Mahara eportfolios support these activities as an online place where you can

- store files, images, links, plans and journals in one place, securely and privately
- gain informal feedback on your work from peers
- connect with other students in a secure and professional setting
- share and showcase your artefacts in flexible ways for
 - an assessment
 - showing an employer your skills
 - creating a CV for a placement
 - presenting a journal

Your course may require you to use Mahara to present your work for assessment or for feedback in a specific way. However, you have the opportunity to **be creative** and **use Mahara for your own purposes: create your own pages** and **develop your digital identity**.

Getting started

1. Contact your tutor to find out if Mahara is being used for specific tasks on your course.
2. To access Mahara eportfolios, go to mahara.nottingham.ac.uk using your university username and password.
3. For further help, refer to the help files in Links and Resources on the Mahara dashboard or contact Student-IT-helpline if you have specific questions.

Example of student eportfolio

The screenshot shows a Mahara eportfolio page titled "Bioscience Student Demo Page" by Judith Ingle. The page is a demo for academic staff in the School of Biosciences. It features several sections:

- My CV and PDP:** Includes sections for Goals, Personal goals (e.g., attend the Digital Age Conference), Skills, Personal skills (e.g., Good at motivating students), and History.
- Employment history:** A table with columns for Start date, End date, and Position. One entry is listed: 2007 - Present, Biosciences Placement Manager, University of Nottingham.
- Education history:** A table with columns for Start date, End date, and Qualification. One entry is listed: 1999 - 1999, BSc (Hons) (Biochemistry 2:1 (Hons) Degree) at University of Newcastle Upon Tyne.
- Certifications, accreditations and awards:** A table with columns for Date and Title. One entry is listed: 2003, Advanced Food Hygiene Certificate.
- Knowledge Evidence:** A section with a title and a description: "In this YouTube video our Under Group 6 will explain what broccoli plants do to prevent themselves being eaten. We'll include assessments and notes and resources".
- Knowledge Evidence - Video:** A section with a title and a description: "Reentry to Biosciences - Footage".
- Lab Skills Evidence - Crossing:** A video thumbnail showing a student working with plants in a lab.
- Lab Skills Evidence - Pipetting:** A video thumbnail showing a student working with pipettes in a lab.