 with…

**Zoom framework**

***Prior to the meeting***

* Ensure that the host has the breakout rooms feature [enabled](https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/206476093-Enabling-breakout-rooms) on Zoom.
* It may also be useful to watch a [short tutorial](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jbPpdyn16sY&t=2s) on how breakout rooms work.

1. **Welcome and introduction**

* Welcome the students and explain the purpose/structure of the event.
  + Acknowledge that this is an unusual situation that we find ourselves in, but it is still possible to make valuable connections with our peers thanks to technology.
  + This event will consist of two activities and will include separating out into smaller breakout rooms.
* Explain the importance of ‘connect’ for wellbeing
  + Connect is one of the six ways to wellbeing at the University.
  + It is all about making time to nurture friendships and family bonds.
  + Studies have shown that stronger relationships can lead to increased wellbeing.
  + Visit the student support website for more information: <http://www.studentsupport.manchester.ac.uk/taking-care/wellbeing/connect/>

1. **Activity 1 – group question activity**

* Introduce the questions that the students might want to focus on but acknowledge that if the conversation strays away from these, that is fine. Examples of questions you might want to suggest include:
  + - * + Question 1 – Why did you choose Manchester?
        + Question 2 – What sparked your interest in your chosen course?
        + Question 3 – What are you most looking forward to in the coming year?
* Separate the group into breakout rooms. It is your choice depending on the size of the group how many participants are assigned to each breakout room. We would suggest 3-4 as an ideal number.
* We would advise also broadcasting these questions to the breakout room as a reminder. Information on how to do this can be found [here](https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/206476313-Managing-breakout-rooms).

1. **During Activity 1**

* The host will be able to navigate between breakout rooms if needed. This could be to check in with the participants and see the kind of conversations going on, or to give quieter rooms some more direction.
* We would recommend giving the participants around 20 minutes for this discussion.

1. **Activity 2 – Icebreaker activity**

* Hopefully the participants will now be more relaxed.
* At this stage we would recommend holding an icebreaker activity. You might want to just try one, or if you have enough time, facilitate a couple. Some ideas include:
  + *Most recent photo*
    - In breakout rooms of 3/4 ask the participants to show the room their most recent photo and explain the story behind the photo.
    - This activity should take around 10 minutes
  + *What do you call this? (Whole group activity)*
    - A pastime that all first years enjoy is seeing what their friends call different objects (e.g. bread roll, barm, bread cake etc.)
    - Share you screen with a range of different objects and get the students to call out/put in the chat what they would call that object. Examples to use include:
      * Bread roll Plimsoles Fizzy drink
      * 
      * TV remote Trainers Drying rack



* + - Acknowledge that for our international students this may be a good way of seeing the differences in British dialect. Also encourage these students to share the word in their language.
    - Try to keep this activity to around 15 minutes.
* This list is not exhaustive you might want to think of an activity that could be course specific, or that you have seen work well on Zoom.

1. **During Activity 2**

* Depending on the chosen activity, the host will be able to hop between breakout rooms to check-in.

1. **Wrapping up the meeting**

* Call the students back to the main meeting.
* Ask the students if any of them want to share how they felt the activities went.
* Again, acknowledge that these are unusual times and the University is here to support you.
* Thank the students for their contributions.
* This could also be a good opportunity to signpost to the relevant school support office: <http://www.studentsupport.manchester.ac.uk/uni-services-az/school-support/>
* We would also encourage you to make a suggestion, that for those who can to do an activity together on campus following social distancing guidelines. We would recommend the Whitworth Tree Trail <http://www.sustainability.manchester.ac.uk/livingcampus/students/tree-trail/>. This will provide an opportunity to further develop connections made during the zoom workshop.