

oxpath

OxPath is an initiative run by students at Oxford University to help talented sixth formers get through the admissions process and into Oxford. We help you arrange 30-minute video calls with a current Oxford student to help you understand the admissions process and demonstrate your skills.

This **digital interviews advice sheet** is a short sheet of advice from our tutors about what they recommend for your digital interview, and how they coped with doing their own academic work online.

It's been put together with advice from our hundreds of Oxford students, so we hope it can be useful for applicants in every subject. It has general advice for online interviews, specific advice for interview subjects where you will be asked to draw, and what you'll need to do, digitally, for each subject.

What you need to do, digitally, for each subject

For every interview, you'll need plain paper and pens, a copy of your personal statement, any written work you submitted, and any pre-reading you might have been sent to look at in advance. Find more details from Oxford University [here](#).

Tier 3: interactive whiteboard and stylus

Biochemistry	Engineering
Chemistry	Mathematics (and
Computer Science (and	Philosophy/ Statistics)
Philosophy)	Physics (and
Earth Sciences	Philosophy)

If you're applying for any of these subjects, you'll need a computer with a webcam and Microsoft Teams. You'll also need a touchscreen device with a stylus and the Miro whiteboard app. If your computer already has a touchscreen larger than 28cm then you don't need a second screen.

Tier 2: interactive whiteboard

Classical Archaeology	History and Economics
and Ancient History	Music
Economics and	Philosophy, Politics and
Management	Economics
Experimental	Psychology, Philosophy
Psychology	and Linguistics

You'll just need a computer with Microsoft Teams and a Miro account for these interviews.

Tier 1: video-call only

This is for every other subject, and you'll only need Microsoft Teams.

General advice and points for online interviews

- First off, try to find the place in your house or school with the best WiFi connection by doing test video calls in different places
- There will be a short lag, but tutors will be aware and sympathetic of this, so don't worry!
- There are upsides to interviewing online too! You won't have to travel to Oxford, and instead will be in a familiar environment with the support of family and teachers between interviews
- If you think it will make you less anxious, you could even keep something below the camera to fidget with, but make sure it doesn't distract you

Specific advice for using interactive whiteboards

- Drawing on a computer/tablet is quite different, so try to practise before your interview - to practise on the Miro whiteboard would be best
- Don't worry about messy writing, but try to write bigger than usual to keep your work clear
- Tier 3 applicants are likely to be asked to annotate a diagram or image; here are our tips:
 - ◇ Because you will be drawing bigger than usual, make sure to space your work out
 - ◇ Zooming in fully on the board and minimising the size of the digital pen will help you save space
 - ◇ Make sure to label important (even the obvious things) and include your working and equations. Tutors want to understand your thought process and observation skills