

DIGITAL LEARNING SPACES

Digital learning spaces are designed for collaboration, discussion and sharing resources. Students can work together in small groups and move easily between groups; or interact with everyone in the room. Students and staff can easily share visual ideas, answers and resources by casting from their own mobile, tablet or laptop to the screen in the individual pod or to the main presentation screen.



TECHNOLOGY

Projection screen

The technology in this space includes a projection screen for sharing lecturer or student resources.

- Can show content from the teaching desk or from any pod
- Show up to four sources on screen at any time e.g. presentation, student answers to a quiz, feed from document camera, four different visual examples etc.

24" Touch display

- Provides touch control over what is seen and heard, and enables switching between input sources for the projection screen and pod tables.
- Can be used as a whiteboard.
- Staff and students can annotate on the screen.
- Can be controlled using a finger or a stylus.

Document camera

- Can be used to show objects or text to the whole room via projection.

Wireless connectivity

- Students and staff can connect wirelessly from laptops, phones, and tablets to the room's screens.

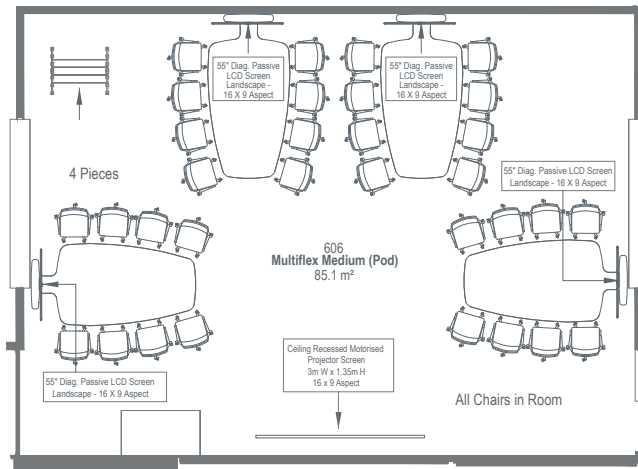
Pod tables

- Students can share content to pod projection screen wirelessly or via HDMI.
- Show up to two sources on screen at any time e.g. student A and student B's examples at the same time, or a question and answer.



LAYOUT

The seats are grouped in eights around the tables. Each pod table has a screen attached. The chairs are moveable.



ACTIVITIES

The pod tables lend themselves to group work and collaboration. The spacious room facilitates networking and collaboration between groups, as well as providing space for staff to move between groups.

Students can move easily between the pod tables (taking or leaving their chair as required). At each pod, students can connect digital devices (laptop, mobile, tablet) to power and to the pod screen. This facilitates ease of sharing of activities, documents and other resources.

Data from a pod screen can also be shared to the main presentation screen.

Example activities:

- **Group work.**
- **Collaboration.**
- **Case studies.**
- **Collaborative design or problem-solving.**

For further activities see [Healey and Healey \(2020\) Embedding active learning in your teaching practice.](#)

MAKING THE MOST OF THE SPACE

- Move around the room to see what each group is doing.
- Encourage students to move or collaborate between the pods where appropriate.
- Use the spaces between the pods as well as the pod tables.

TOP TIPS

- Use the main presentation screen to present core information, whilst students use the pod screens to show group activities or share their collaborative work.
- Students can connect to the internet so can access any data or apps needed for the group activity e.g. a problem, case study or set of activity instructions.
- Pod spaces can also facilitate real-time connections or collaborations with others off-campus e.g. guest speakers, students unable to attend in person.
- Encourage students to move about to collaborate beyond their own group and also to make use of the space between the pods, where appropriate.
- The pod screen can be used to showcase any resources which need to be shared within the group. For example, the screen could display group instructions, or a group document.
- You (and students) can present from anywhere in the room, so make the most of the space.

