

Student advantages (part 2)

Another advantage of e-portfolio is the capacity for allowing students to personalise their learning and to include that in their submission for assessment. So they can personalise the front page and they love doing that because there is lots of colour and images which they identify with, so they spend quite a lot of time deciding what images they are going to put on the front page of the e-portfolio and I think that is very nice. It engages them instantly and that's a big advantage for us as academic staff because they then want to work with it. Apart from that it means that students have a wide choice of what they will include and what kind of evidence they can link to in their main narrative, so we see examples of informal notes to themselves about their thoughts and ideas, we see examples of questionnaires or evaluation forms that they have used to receive feedback on their own teaching. Some put video clips, some put illustrations, examples of PowerPoint slides. So the portfolio accommodates virtually any kind of evidence that students want to present and it's interesting because initially they are surprised by this since they are often used to using paper based portfolios they can't really understand initially that it's possible to just link to almost anything, but they very quickly learn that they can make links, they can scan papers, any kind of materials, for example, and they can use all of the electronic opportunities that we have available for them. So I think that is a very bit advantage in terms of individualising their own work.