



Cardiff
Metropolitan
University

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Caerdydd

We offer places at Cardiff School of Art & Design based on an interview process. It's not just about exam results - we want to know more about you as a person, and as an artist, designer or maker.

This helps us to ensure that both our innovative interdisciplinary curriculum and our diverse and creative community of students and staff is the right fit for you.

We're looking for evidence of your **enthusiasm**, **creativity** and **curiosity**, as well as your skills and potential as a creative and critical thinker, artist, designer or maker.

The interview process varies depending on which course you have applied for, but most involve a review of your portfolio of work and a conversation with the subject team. Some of our interviews are one-to-one, while others may involve group exercises. All of our interviews are informal - we want you to feel relaxed and able to be yourself.

Portfolio Tips

Your portfolio is a collection of your work. It can include pieces you've worked on at school or college, and personal work that you've created for yourself. Here are some tips on how to make the most of your portfolio:

What to include in your portfolio

It's a good idea to tailor your portfolio to the course you are applying for, but there are some general things that are useful to include no matter which subject you are interested in:

- Evidence of a good range of art and design skills. This could include 2D mark-making such as drawing, painting, composition, and/or examples of 3D making – objects, sculpture, textiles, products etc. You can also include links to moving image work hosted on sites such as Vimeo or YouTube.
- Include initial ideas, sketches and development as well as finished pieces. It should give us an insight into your interests, skills and creativity.
- Quality over quantity. Part of preparing a good portfolio is deciding what to leave out – rather than showing us everything you've ever done, choose your best and most relevant pieces.
- Show us your experiments. Include examples where you tried something new, or took a risk – even if it didn't work out. This shows us that you can work outside of your comfort zone and demonstrates curiosity.

For more ideas on what to include watch our [portfolio tips video](#).

How to create an electronic portfolio

The most straightforward way to provide us with a portfolio is to email a PDF file to us – we will tell you where to send this when we contact you about your interview.

[Watch our video guide](#) to creating a simple PDF portfolio using Microsoft PowerPoint below, or download a text version:

While a **PDF is our preferred format**, we can also accept a link to a portfolio website if you have one.

Interview Tips

Here are a few tips on how to get the most out of your interview at CSAD:

- **Do your research** – make sure you've read all the information on our website about the course you are applying for before your interview. We recommend that you watch the video presentation about your chosen course on our [Virtual Open Day website](#). You could also check out our [Instagram](#) and [Student Blogs](#).
- **Prepare some questions** – ask us about things like work placements and further study after your degree, or anything else you'd like to know about studying with us.
- **Be yourself** – it's not a formal job interview, so we don't expect you to wear a suit! We want to meet the real you.
- **Be on time** – make sure to read **all** of the information we send you and allow plenty of time to get ready. You'll perform much better if you aren't stressed about being late. If there's a problem and you think you might be late, get in touch and let us know as soon as possible.

After Your Interview

If you are successful at interview, we will write to you with either a conditional or unconditional offer. We will also update your UCAS Track with the decision.

If you get an unconditional offer, we'd expect you to keep working and learning - we strongly recommend that you work hard to complete the course you are currently on and get the best results you can.

If we make you a conditional offer but you don't get the required grades on results day, get in touch. If you did well at the interview and impressed us with your portfolio, we'll take that into consideration.