

THE PADFIELD PARTNERSHIP

17 Discussion Topics for Online Meetings

You can use these questions at the start of an online meeting as an icebreaker or check-in, in the middle as an energiser, or at the end to help reinforce the learning or suggest action steps.

The time to allow depends on numbers and how talkative they are as a team. To ensure people don't take too long, I recommend you ask them each to answer in one sentence.

- 1 Why are you here today?
- 2 What's the most important outcome for you from this session, and why?
- 3 What will you contribute to make this work a success?
- 4 If you weren't here right now, where would you most like to be?
- 5 Which emoji or word best describes how you are feeling right now?
- 6 What is something you learned this week?
- 7 What has been a recent highlight for you, no matter how large or small?
- 8 Who or what has made you laugh in the past 24 hours?
- 9 What is something you discovered recently that inspired or interested you?
- 10 What's the best advice you've ever been given?
- 11 If you could instantly become an expert in something, what would it be?
- 12 What one thing brings you energy and joy?
- 13 What is the most beautiful place near where you live?
- 14 What is the first thing you would save if your home caught fire?
- 15 What are you most grateful for?
- 16 What are you excited or worried about from today's work?
- 17 What are you most looking forward to during the next week?

You could ask them to verbalise this, draw on a shared whiteboard, or use electronic media such as digital sticky notes. You could then cluster them into common themes, and assess whether the group is feeling flat and exhausted, for example. Either way, you should allocate time to process the results and not ignore them.

Source: Inspired by a blog post on Mural, the digital collaboration platform.

