# Personal Development Planning (PDP)

Personal Development Planning (PDP) is the system by which students develop the capacity to reflect on their learning and achievement, by identifying their strengths and weaknesses, pinpointing gaps in their development, making plans to gain new experiences and clarifying areas of interest that they wish to pursue.

## How PDP works

At Kent, you can keep track of your personal development by using [MyFolio](https://myfolio.kent.ac.uk/myfolio/) - a dynamic online space which enables you to record all the things that you do at university and showcase them to your peers, tutors or prospective employers. It contains many features, such as:

* Blogging tools which you can use to reflect on your skills development.
* Planning facilities so that you can plan how to develop your skills further.
* CV features.
* Uploading capacity for files, photos and videos of all the things that you have achieved at university.

## Skills you will develop at Kent

At Kent, you will develop a range of generic and discipline-specific skills, including:

* Communication skills
* Research skills
* Team working skills
* Planning and organisation skills
* Project management skills
* Enterprise skills
* Problem-solving skills
* Reflection skills
* Numeracy skills
* IT skills
* Leadership skills

## Developing these and other skills using PDP will help you to:

* Integrate your academic, personal and career development.
* Be more effective at monitoring and reviewing your progress.
* Be more aware of how you are learning.
* Recognise and discuss your strengths and weaknesses.
* Identify opportunities for learning and personal development outside the curriculum.
* Be better prepared for employment, and more able to relate your learning to employers.

# How you can improve your employability

**The formal curriculum**

Assignments on your degree programme are designed to help you develop key employability skills such as critical thinking, research, and communication.

**Co-curricular activities**

There are opportunities to participate in activities linked to your studies, such as becoming a course rep, peer mentor or student ambassador. These activities will improve your interpersonal skills and leadership qualities.

**Extra-curricular activities**

Kent has a wide variety of clubs and societies which you can join to enhance your team skills and have fun whilst you are a student.

**Volunteering**

The Kent Volunteering Scheme organises a diverse range of volunteering opportunities for students to develop new skills and interests, as well as make a positive contribution to the community.

**Employment**

Most students balance their studies with some form of paid work. This develops useful time-management, numeracy and communication skills.

**Other**

Don’t neglect other valuable experiences that you may have had, such as running a home, bringing up children, starting a business, travelling abroad and organising events.

A qr code with black squares

Description automatically generated

Scan the QR code to book appointments, view our events calendar, watch skills videos and more…’