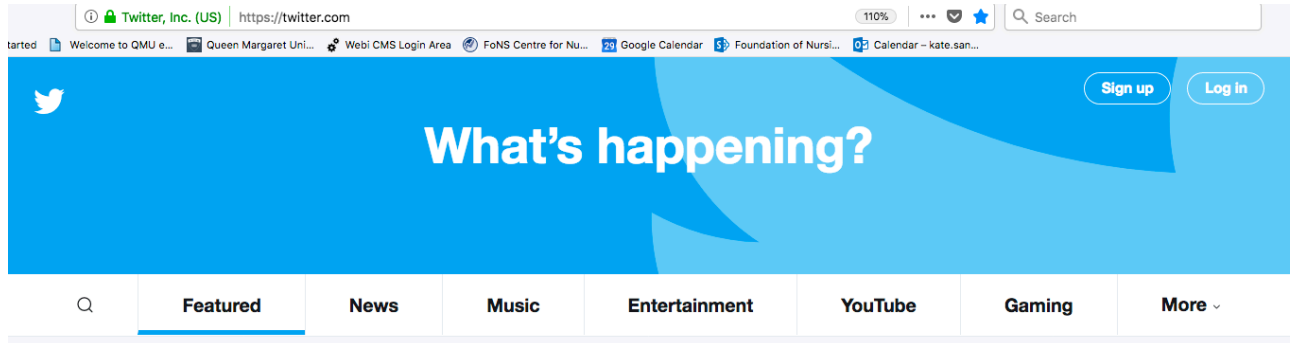


The FoNS Guide to Joining in a Twitter Chat

This guide has been developed assuming that you will be joining in the Twitter Chat using a computer or laptop. This might be easiest if you are new to chats. The information should translate to mobiles and tablets, but the screen arrangements might vary slightly.

Joining Twitter

If you have not already joined Twitter, visit www.twitter.com and **Sign Up** to create an account.



Login

Once you have logged in, open a new webpage and visit **TweetDeck**: <https://tweetdeck.twitter.com/> as it is a really helpful way of joining in with a Twitter Chat. TweetDeck is owned by Twitter and so you should still be logged in. Don't worry if not, you will be prompted to login. Do this using your Twitter details.

TweetDeck

Once you are logged in to TweetDeck, you will see a series of columns. They may look slightly different to the ones in the screenshot below, but you should see New Tweet, Home and Notifications.

If you want, you can reorganise columns by dragging from top left hand corner of column to make easier to view depending on what you want to see first.

Next – enter the hashtag for the Twitter Chat e.g. #EWCulture into the search box

You will see that a new column appears, which includes a stream of tweets, all of which include the selected hashtag e.g. #EWCulture
This is where you will be able to follow the Twitter Chat.



The screenshot shows the Twitter TweetDeck interface with a search for the hashtag #EWCulture. The interface is divided into four columns:

- Column 1 (Home):** Shows a 'New Tweet' composer and a list of tweets from @FoNScharity. The top tweet is from Alison Cameron, retweeted by @TomNCCMH, discussing budget constraints in healthcare. Below it is a tweet from Prof Debra Jackson about a workshop on group decision making.
- Column 2 (Notifications):** Shows tweets from @FoNScharity, including a retweet from Jane Sproat RN about improving hospital care for people with learning disabilities, and a tweet from Burdett Trust.
- Column 3 (Scheduled):** Shows tweets scheduled for Feb 13, 2018, including a tweet from Jane Sproat RN and another from Burdett Trust.
- Column 4 (Search Results):** Shows tweets for the hashtag #EWCulture. The top tweet is from Kate Sanders (@Kateatfons) inviting users to join a Twitter chat. Below it is a promotional post from FoNS (@FoNScharity) about a blog and a workshop.

Joining in the Twitter Chat

- **Login** to your Twitter account on the date and time of the Twitter Chat – it is probably worth allowing 5 minutes before the start to orientate yourself
- Go to **TweetDeck** as suggested above (you should automatically be logged in but if not, follow the login prompts)
- **Search for the hashtag e.g. #EWCulture** as shown above
- Follow the Twitter Chat in the selected hashtag column e.g. #EWCulture
- The hosts will start by welcoming people to the chat
- It is a good idea to start with a tweet to **introduce yourself**. You can do this in the New Tweet box which opens when you click on the following symbol -






which is in the top left hand corner of the screen

- **Remember to include the selected hashtag e.g. #EWCulture in all your tweets** – otherwise they won't appear in the chat. Anything that you tweet will appear in the Home column and also the selected hashtag column
- A question will be tweeted by the hosts to get the conversation going. You can follow responses to the question in the selected hashtag column



You can retweet, like or reply to these responses by clicking on one of the symbols here

- So **to summarise** –you write a new tweet using the New Tweet column on the left of the screen. Responses or reactions are entered by clicking on the ‘comment’  (remember to include #EWCulture in your comment) ‘retweet’  or ‘like’  symbols at the bottom of the tweets that will appear in the selected hashtag column e.g. #EWCulture column
- It is likely that there will be 4-5 questions fed into the chat. These will be identified by Q1, Q2 etc. When answering a specific question or comment from another participant, use their Twitter handle so that you identify who you are responding to. A **Twitter handle** always starts with @, so for example @FoNSCharity
- **Remember** – whether it is a new tweet or a response, always include the selected hashtag e.g. #EWCulture
- Chats can be quite fast and busy - don’t panic, just follow what you can and don’t be afraid to contribute. Hosts and participants will be glad to hear from you!

After the Twitter Chat

After a Twitter Chat, it is usual for the hosts to create a summary of the conversation and make this available for viewing and maybe further comment. They can do this by searching for the selected hashtag to identify all the tweets that contributed to the chat. The content of these can then be analysed and common themes identified.