How to find the right tutor for your child

There are many reasons why you might want to send your child to a tutor. Perhaps they are having a bit of difficulty with Maths or English classes at school. At the other end of the spectrum, maybe they are already ahead of their classmates and need more advanced mental stimulation.

Whatever the case, finding the right tutor for your child takes some serious research and consideration. To help match your child with the best individual tutor or tutorial program, answer these questions as you mark off the checklist.

☐ How does your child learn best?

Everyone thrives in different environments. So while some students get the most out of learning in a traditional classroom, others need complete silence and solitude to absorb information. There are also children who learn better by listening to teachers, while others prefer to read all the information from a textbook. Others still are great at memorisation, so rote learning is easy for them.

Make sure you understand what type of learning environment your child prefers, as this will help steer you in the right direction of a tutor.

☐ What are the benefits of group tutoring versus one-on-one?

There are many different environments in which a tutor can help your child. If your child learns better alongside other children, then a group setting may be more appropriate. Group tutorials may also be less expensive than hiring a one-on-one tutor.

However, if your child needs more focused attention to learn, then a one-on-one environment may reap greater benefits than learning in a group. It all depends on where they thrive, and you may need to test out both tutorial types to choose one that fits best.

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☐ Would face-to-face or remote learning be more appropriate?

Living in the age of COVID-19 means we are working and learning very differently. When lockdowns are in force, parents are working from home while students are learning remotely. The good news is that this gives you more options for tutors.

Again, it depends on the environment in which your child will truly thrive. Face-to-face learning may be more appropriate for the subject type if there needs to be lots of interaction between tutor and student. Remote learning, however, may be best if your child performs best at home or if constant drop-offs and pick-ups aren't always possible.

☐ What are the tutor's teaching credentials?

Not all tutors are created equal, and because you want your child to get the most out of their education it's important to reference-check any potential candidate's credentials. Most tutors will be more than willing to speak to you about their experience and share references. And if you decide to go with a group class, you should be able to find reviews for the tutors online.

☐ What is your budget?

Tutors can deliver exceptional results in a short amount of time, but they do tend to come at a price. Even with government support packages, the cost of having a regular tutor can place a burden on you financially.

☐ Does the tutor offer a trial period?

It's important to work out your budget before you start the search for tutors. It's also recommended that you ask about any trial periods. After all, if your child doesn't 'click' with a particular tutor, then you will want to pair them up with someone else as soon as possible. It may take a few attempts, but with this checklist in hand you'll hopefully find the right tutor for your child in no time.

Every parent wants their child to succeed in school. Sometimes a tutor can be the best support to help boost their education and improve the way they absorb information.

We hope this checklist comes in handy for finding the right tutor for your child.

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