



What You Need To Know Before Choosing A Tutor

*The top 5 things other tutoring
agencies won't tell you*

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Choosing the right tutor



When and why would you need a tutor?

There are various reasons as to why students or parents engage a tutor. Sometimes they may be aware that a tutor is required, other times they may not be aware or open to the idea of obtaining outside help.

Tutoring is what we call educational coaching – just like sports athletes get sports coaching, we believe to operate at your maximum capacity, the right help, coaching and guidance is needed.

The reasons for this include:

- **Wanting to succeed** at the highest levels and to your maximum capability
- Many students did not **master basic knowledge** and skills and require the fundamentals to be taught to them or risk falling behind
- Not having the **motivation or purpose** of wanting to perform educationally and requiring the mentoring to gain focus and vision
- Not having the **organisation and time-management skills** to handle multiple subjects and various other parts of life
- Facing **learning difficulties** due to various reasons
- Dealing with social, medical, emotional, behavioural and/or family problems

Whatever your situation or reason, we're big believers in having mentors and learning from those who have experienced what you're endeavouring to achieve.

If you are a parent, the first step is to explain to your child why you think a tutor is needed and what a tutor does. Talk about what you hope will be accomplished with a tutor and how it will benefit them and how the great students usually have tutors.

Where do you find tutors?



1 School

Call your school teacher and share your concern.

Good teachers will have files about your school career, marks on tests, and notes on possible personality problems. Also, you may check the school bulletin board.

2 Referrals

Ask friends, family and neighbours for referrals. There's nothing like a referral from someone you know, trust and has worked with that tutor.

3 Check reviews

Search well-known, well-reviewed tutoring centres. Make sure that they actually have training in place for their tutors and aren't just middle-men



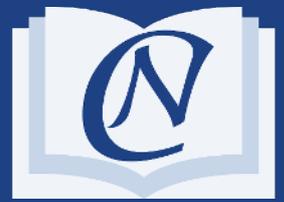
Asking the right questions



- What is your educational background?
- What type of teaching experience do you have?
- What is your working with children check number?
- How do you evaluate each student's needs?
- How long to you think you will need to prepare the lessons?
- What tutoring methods do you use?
- What do you expect from me?
- How do you motivate your students?
- What hours are you available?
- Where do you do your tutoring?
- How long do you expect tutoring to last?
- How much do you charge for your services?
- What is the range of results you see?
- Is there someone I can contact who knows your tutoring skills?



What other centres won't tell you



- **Meet with several candidates.** Consider interviewing several tutors with your child. If your child is a part of the process, he/she will be more open to accepting help.
- **Monitor progress.** Ask for feedback from your child, and see if your child's grade gradually improves. If, after several sessions, you don't see improvement or you feel a negative attitude in your child, move on to another tutor.
- **Plan tutoring** for the time of day that the student is fresh and ready to learn. Tutoring is an intense learning experience and you want to take every advantage of it. Allow for much-needed breaks from the school routine.
- For students with focus problems or a learning disability, consider scheduling more than one lesson a week.
- **Observe** how you or your child working with the tutor. The session should include hands-on learning and be very interactive. Watch how your child relates to the tutor. Sit in on part of a session if possible. The student must be engaged and comfortable at all times. There must be a good rapport between the tutor and student. Give the relationship a chance to develop (about 4 - 8 lessons) but if it doesn't, look for another tutor.
- **Request periodic reports** from both the tutor and your child's teacher. There should be noticeable academic improvement within a few months.
- Arrange to **talk with the tutor** periodically to monitor progress, when the child is not present.
- **Ask the student's teacher** to talk with the tutor. Teachers feel reassured to know that someone is helping a student and they are working toward common goals.



Feel free to ask us anything

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