

TEACHER ASSISTANT INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

CRITERIA – Proven communication and interpersonal skills with both adults and students

Tell us about previous situations that you have been in which demonstrates your communication and interpersonal skills with adults and students in the work place, especially students with special and/or additional needs

Can you describe why you think good communication and interpersonal skills are important in your role as TA

Tell us about yourself and what attracted you to apply for this position

CRITERIA – An understanding of general educational processes and methods

Tell us about your understanding of how students learn and how you would use this to work with special and/or additional needs students with challenging behaviours

Highlight some examples where you have used your understanding of general educational processes and methods to improve the learning opportunities or experiences for a student.

A mandatory requirement of the Department of Education is to take part in a Performance Development Plan. This enables you to discuss any goals or issues you have, with your Supervisor. If you encountered some feedback about your performance that wasn't as positive as you would like, how would you respond to this?

A parent has communicated to you some extremely sensitive and worrying information. What would your response be?

CRITERIA – An understanding of general health and safety requirements

The student with Autism that you are working with attacks and starts hitting students in the playground. Tell us what you would do?

CRITERIA – Proven capacity to work as part of a team and be adaptable and flexible

There are currently a number of teacher assistants working with special needs students in the school. Tell us what strategies you would take to enhance your capacity to work as part of this team

Can you describe some ways you have worked as part of a team in your role as Teacher Assistant?

At this school our teacher assistants are required to perform a wide variety of roles. Describe a situation when you have demonstrated your ability to be adaptable and flexible in a school environment

How could your skills and personal attributes contribute to a positive team culture at this school and why do you think you are the best applicant for this position?

CRITERIA – Established skills of creativity, initiative and good judgement

Can you describe some examples in your role as teacher assistant, of how you have used your skills of creativity and initiative?

Outline an approach you would use to support a student's reading development

How important do you think creativity, initiative and good judgement are when dealing with students with special and/or high needs? Give us an example of a situation you have been in where these skills have been required.

You are working with a small group of students in a room adjacent to a teacher. One of the students is frustrated with the work and starts to become disruptive and aggressive. What strategies would you use in this situation?

Tell us about a time when you have identified a process that was being done poorly. What did you do and how did it work out?

CRITERIA - Proven capacity to work with students with high and/or additional needs

Tell us about a particular case where you worked with a child with high and/or additional needs

What are some key strategies you would use to support the learning of a student with high and/or additional needs

Have you worked with a special needs student with challenging behaviour? If so, please give an example of what strategies you put in place in order to keep the child on task?

CRITERIA – A good standard of numeracy and literacy with personal skills of accuracy, precision, personal organisation and planning

The position you have applied for requires multi-skilling and the ability to prioritise work and tasks at a moment's notice. Explain how you would deal with setting up classrooms at the beginning of each school year. Give us some examples where you have been requested to organise resources for students in a classroom setting.

OTHER QUESTIONS

Is there any additional information you would like to add to support your suitability for the role

Can you sum up why you'd like to work in the role of teacher assistant?

What are some skill areas that you would like to develop further in order to be more effective in the role of Teacher Assistant?