

Teacher Interview Questions

Teacher Interview Questions About Professional Experience and Goals

Why did you decide to become a teacher?

Why do you want to teach at this school?

Which component of your résumé are you most proud of and why?

What three words would your peers, administrators, or students use to describe you?

What are you learning right now?

Where do you see yourself in 5 or 10 years?

Interview Questions About Teaching Experience

What has been your greatest teaching success so far?

What has been your biggest teaching challenge? How did you handle it?

What experience do you have teaching this age/grade level? What do you like most about it?

What's challenging about teaching students at this age/grade?

Have you ever made a mistake with a student? What happened, and how did you address it?

Describe a troubling student you've taught. What did you do to get through to them?

How do you think COVID-19 has affected today's students? What changes have you observed, and how have you dealt with them in your classroom?

Tell us about a time when:

- You helped a student succeed when they were struggling.
- A student was being bullied, and how you handled it.
- You had to make a difficult decision quickly, how you made it, and the consequences of that decision.
- A student's behavior seriously disrupted the classroom, and how you handled it.
- You felt overwhelmed in the classroom, and how you coped.
- A parent seemed to be doing their child more harm than good, and how you addressed it.
- A student challenged your authority in the classroom, and how you handled it.
- You received negative feedback, and how you addressed it at the time and in the future.

Teaching Philosophies and Strategies Interview Questions

What is your teaching philosophy?

What do you think students expect and need from their teachers? How will you meet those expectations?

How does a teacher's personality affect their success? What would you say your "teacher personality" is?

How do you approach lesson planning?

How do you accommodate different learning styles in your classroom?

Provide some examples of how you differentiate your lessons or learning activities.

How will you help students prepare for standardized testing success?

What are some methods you use to check for understanding as you're teaching?

How do you assess students' progress?

Describe your classroom management structure.

Do you have classroom rules? How did you develop them, and how do you share them with students to ensure they're followed?

What behavior management strategies do you find most effective? Least effective?

How do you incorporate social-emotional learning in your lessons?

How do you use technology in the classroom?

What role do you believe diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives should play in your classroom and in the school?

What are your thoughts about grades?

How will you encourage parents to support their children's education?

What do you expect from your relationship with school administrators? What support do you hope to receive from them?

What did/do you like/dislike about working remotely?

Teacher Interview Questions About Handling Challenges

What is the greatest challenge facing teachers today?

What is the greatest challenge facing students today?

How would you handle a parent challenging your teaching methods/curriculum/classroom management?

What impact does trauma have on student learning? How do you address this in your classroom?

How do you cope with stress?

What's your least favorite subject or topic to teach? How do you ensure you teach it well?

How can you meet the needs of a student with an IEP?

How would you handle a situation in which you believe a student doesn't need all of the accommodations listed in their IEP?

How will you meet the needs of English-language learners (ESL/ELL) in your classroom?

How will you meet the needs of the students in your class who are advanced or say they're bored?

How will you engage reluctant learners?

If the majority of your class failed a test or other assignment, how would you handle it?

How do you feel about classroom observations and walk-throughs?

Interview Questions About Communities and Colleagues

Tell us about your experiences with team teaching or co-teaching. Do you find it beneficial?

Which activities, clubs, or sports are you willing to sponsor if you are offered a position?

What do you feel you can contribute to our school's PLC for your subject?

Have you ever worked with a teaching mentor? Tell us about the value of that experience.

Would you consider becoming a teaching mentor? What do you think you have to share with the next generation of educators?

What do you think is the larger community's role in education? How would you help your students see their part in their community?

Best Questions for Teachers To Ask in Interviews

1. What are some of the challenges you expect the teacher in this position to face?
2. How would you describe your school's culture? What types of teachers tend to thrive here, and what types don't do as well?
3. How long did the previous teacher in the role hold the position? What has turnover in the role generally been like?
4. Thinking back to teachers you've seen hold this role previously, what differentiated the ones who were good from the ones who were really great?
5. What's your timeline for next steps?