

# UK School Interviews

## The phone interview

In all probability you may not have had experience at a phone interview and will have several questions to ask about the process.

- How formal will the interview be?
- What kind of questions will I be asked?
- Will the school offer me a job over the Phone?
- What is the local area like?
- What is the school like?

Your consultant will have already provided you with a full outline about the school, teaching position and area, and we have provided the following information which you may like to consider in readiness for your phone interviews.

- The interview – a conference call scenario set up by LER and usually conducted by the Head Teacher (Principal) & Head of Department.
- Information about the school and teaching position will be given and you will be asked about your experience to date. A classroom scenario may be presented for you to comment on, such as how you would handle a particular situation. This relates to your classroom management strategies.
- CV – the school will already have received information and have been fully briefed about you from LER and therefore have a similar idea about you as you have about the school. They will usually want to know what you have taught, your teaching strategies, your behaviour management strategies and any other aspect of teaching and learning you might have to offer.
- Interviews are generally about 30 minutes but can take up to an hour at times if there are many people on the interview panel, and the school may want to ask more in-depth questions about the subject area.
- It is general practise to allow a short period of time for both the teacher and the school to reflect on the interview and make a decision. During this time your consultant will be in touch with you to provide you with feedback that the school may provide, and discuss your thoughts on the interview.
- Once you have been appointed you will have access to as much detail as possible before you start the position. Many schools actively contact new teachers and send out position and school related information such as a timetable before you start teaching.

## Questions to ask at an interview

### The Position

- Find out the size of the department – staff & assistants
- Be sure to get clear time parameters of the position.
- Is the syllabus pre-planned?
- What are the teaching resources available to me: smart board etc?
- What preparation would I be required to do prior to starting if successful?
- Are units of work planned individually or part of the dept team?
- Are there any extra-curricular responsibilities that I should be aware of?
- What is the duration of each lesson?
- What are the hours of a school day?
- What will my timetable consist of?

### Classroom Support

- What is your classroom support policy?
- Are there any special needs students I should be aware of?
- Could you give me more information on the behaviour of the students at your school?
- What is the parental involvement like?

### School

- How many pupils are at the school?
- Ask about the academic standards in the school
- How many people in the department?
- Are there many overseas teachers at your school?
- How transient are your staff and student body?
- Could you give me information on the socio economic and cultural make up of the student body?
- How many ESI students at the school?
- What are the transport links like?