

Interview Guide

Why is a college interview important?

An interview is a chance for you to meet with a tutor who represents the college and the course you have applied for. It's a great way to show your interest in the college, to start a relationship with the college staff and to show what you're all about. Here are some tips to prepare you for your interview.



Before an interview

- Make sure your application is fully completed, is neat and gives a good first impression. Put the date and time on your calendar, making sure you arrive no more than 15 minutes before your interview time and not late.
- Research the college by checking out our website – www.eastcoast.ac.uk, Prospectus and the Factsheets available on the website.
- Make notes about why you want to attend East Coast College.
- Make notes about your life outside the classroom, including activities, community service and hobbies.
- Get familiar with common interview questions and do some practice interviews with a friend or family member. Take turns being the interviewee and the interviewer.
- Prepare questions to ask the interviewer.
- Get directions to the interview.
- Dress smartly for your interview.
- Gather the documents you need, including qualification certificates, portfolio work and your personal statement.
- Let us know if you cannot attend your interview.



During the interview

Questions about how you would fit into college:

Tutors want to know that you're really interested in their college and the course and what you can bring to the college.

Interviewers will ask questions like these:

- Why have you applied for this course?
- Why do you want to attend East Coast College?
- What can you contribute to our college?
- What knowledge do you have about the industry you have applied for?
- What career ideas do you have?
- English & maths? - make sure you know where you are at.

Questions about your personality:

Interviewers may ask questions like these to see that you can think and speak about yourself:

- How would you describe yourself?
- What are your strengths and weaknesses? For example - Talk about how you've used your strengths to accomplish something. Talk about how you overcome your weaknesses e.g. "I have a hard time learning new languages, so I set aside more time to study them."

Questions about activities, interests and goals:

Interviewers may ask questions like these to get to know you better and learn what's important to you. Be honest and don't say things just to impress. Remember to say why you like these things:

- What activities and interests do you find most rewarding?
- What is your favourite book?
- What career would you like to progress on to?

More interview tips

Have a conversation: Don't try to memorise a script, this won't show you at your best. Ask questions: make sure you ask questions and express your interest in the course and the college.

Be yourself: Don't try to answer questions based on what you think the interviewer wants to hear.

