

Client Interview

First set of questions: About my client

1) *I would just like to confirm that you are Joseph Tuton.*

Yup, that's me.

2) *What do you teach in this school?*

At school I teach Science.

3) *And for how long have you been teach in this school?*

At this school I've been teaching- this will be my fourth year.

4) *What is your official teaching qualification?*

Official teaching qualification is- I got that from Queensland Australia, the Bachelor of Applied Science, Human Movement with Education and Honours.

5) *Have you taught anywhere before your position at Skinner's Academy?*

Yes, this is my sixth-seventh year teaching, I worked two years in Australia, and about- I taught at two different schools before Skinners' and did heaps of supply teaching as well.

6) *What do you feel are the most import things to pay attention to when teaching students?*

The most important thing's to pay attention to; them enjoying- them enjoying learning- that is the main thing I want them to do. And then from that enjoyment, then they can see the enjoyment of learning and then push themselves more to learn new things.

7) *What are your favourite things about teaching?*

Seeing the look on student's faces when they finally get something. It's like the lightbulb moment when they go 'ding, "Oh smile, I've got it!"', that's the most enjoyable bit.

8) *If I asked any of your students, what is the kind of things they'll say about you?*

[Laughter] Oh dear, truthfully... not a 'wasteman' apparently. That I'm a bit crazy. I like doing experiments, not really too harsh on them, because they know I'd rather them being in my classroom and learn, I think they like- that I'm fair. And I do enjoy teaching- I think they get that.

Second set of questions: About the Science Club

1) *I would also like to confirm that you are the head of science club.*

Yes, I am in charge of Science Club in Skinners'.

2) *What do you do in Science Club? As in the day.*

In the Science Club what we do is many, many experiments that they don't get to do in class or that the teachers do as demos and the students actually get to do these experiments themselves, as there is a less number of people [*compared to a normal science class*] so it is safer, a bit hands on.

3) *How long have you run the club for?*

I've run this club at Skinners' for three years. So at the first year I was here, it was a little bit give or take a bit- pretty much my first time at Skinners'.

4) *Could you give me a rundown or example of an average day?*

During Science Club?

Yes.

So the students arrive, they take a register, they take it downstairs. We generally have a demo at the start to get them interested, sometimes we have a theme in Science Club, and then we get the students to do some experiments themselves- and then we get a little feedback about how and what they've learnt, somethings they didn't know and if we have time, do another experiment and for a conclusion it's a demo by a teacher to get them thinking about another thing that they can go home and have a wonder.

5) *What aims do you have in Science Club?*

Aims for Science Club is to get them to push themselves more, to learn something they won't learn in class, sometimes pushing their knowledge on things they learnt in class a little bit more in detail through that using experiments.

6) *Finally, do you have any achievements as a club?*

Yes, ongoing now we've put up a science garden we started, that is a great achievement- we're hopefully getting some veggies and fruit in the school. And the biggest one was Skinners' very first Science Fair. And that was a huge, huge success. It had many students, we thought it would only be interesting for Key Stage Three, but we had a couple Key Stage Four groups going to year 10 who really wanted to do it next year. So that's one of the biggest achievements I reckon that we've done in Science Club.

Third set of questions: About the project

1) Could you please explain this project a bit?

Alright, so this project came about then I thought how to get a bit more fun into science, especially in the younger years. That's where they need to get the interest in science. If they see it as a task and learning exams than it's no point. So basically, to increase the interest in science and getting them excited before GCSEs. I think that doing this project... it will make it a bit fun. I've come up with two main themes, to kind of promote science and maths in this project. Getting an 'online thing' to... [Cuts off]. Yeah, so I've been trying to think of some things, but I'm not quite sure past this point at the moment.

2/3) Well you've pretty much said your reasons, so I'll skip to the next question: Who do you think this project would be geared towards?

Yeah, so like I said the younger years, Key Stage Three, year 7s and year 8s.

So before GCSE?

Yeah, definitely before GCSE to keep that idea of fun that I keep saying about.

4) Okay, if you had to give this project a title or a name, what would it be, can you think of one?

Absolutely no idea, that's the hardest thing- I generally put titles to someone else- my creativeness isn't that deep

I guess it is harder then there isn't something in front of you, I understand.

5) You used the word 'fun a lot, could you please maybe explain what you meant by this?

Yeah so, difficult answer. It's a bit of a difficult answer because it's a broad topic. So fun as in interest, keenness, look of not ramming down younger people's throat about exams, "you must learn this", it takes the enjoyment out of it. So I think the word fun is more them asking questions and then them working out why- getting that interest, enjoying the learning and actually realising that they're learning at the same time, I think by fun. So the idea of fun without them knowing they're learning- and test it at the same time.

6) Do you have any set format you'd like this project in?

[Look of slight confusion]

Like a webpage, a game or a simulation

They all sound like great ideas to me.

I'll make sure to explore this further and present some ideas.

Wonderful.

7) Any additional information you would like to give?

UM, not at this stage, it's the starting part of the project so, as long as we don't really push the judging bit of them- the end result; like we said, it's the learning process, without them knowing, 'test-it' type of thing.

Ok, thank you for your time.