

# HOW TO CONDUCT GREAT PARENTS INTERVIEWS

## 10 ideas from homeroom teachers to future teachers

What makes a good interview with a parent? How can you tackle some of the main challenges? And how can you prevent some of the most frequent mistakes? Here's the advice from teachers who shared their best strategies and tips.

### 1 Prepare and guide the interview



Prepare the goal, structure, questions and maintain control of the interview.

### 2 Research and gather information



Get relevant and specific information about the student. Discuss facts.

### 3 Keep students at the center of the conversation



If the conversation is drifting away, bring it back to the student, and don't entertain non-related topics.

### 4 Show parents you know their children



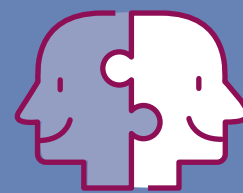
Show them you really care. Provide anecdotes and talk about their child's strengths and interests.

### 5 Talk about the positive



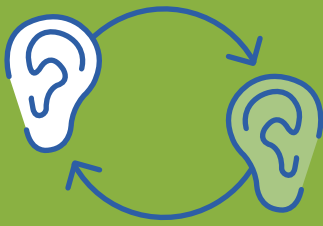
Always start or have something positive to say about the student. Parents will value this.

### 6 Empathize & focus on solutions



Don't judge or criticize the family. Empathize with parents and focus on solutions.

### 7 Make sure it's a two-way conversation



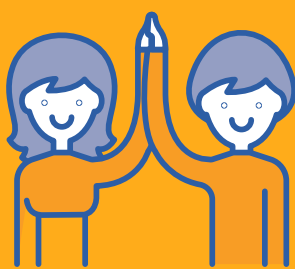
Be sure to ask a lot of questions, actively listen, and make parents feel heard.

### 8 Stay calm



If parents get angry, stay calm, keep a mild tone of voice, don't escalate the situation.

### 9 Teamwork



Let the parents know that you should work as a team to achieve their child's well-being.

### 10 Be confident



Although it's normal to feel intimidated, always remember you are the specialist.