

Nailing the interview! Techniques & tips for ThinkHigher students

Many colleges, universities, apprenticeships and companies require you to sit an interview before offering a role. For many ThinkHigher students, this may be your first experience being interviewed so it's important to prepare yourself beforehand.

Get yourself interview ready:

The most important part of any interview is the preparation, the more prepared you are for any question/task asked of you, the more likely you are to show them that you are the right candidate.

Research the university, provider or company you are applying to, and be ready to explain why you want to study/work for them. Try to match their values to your own.

Prepare for any question by looking up most common interview questions online, you'll be surprised how many of these come up. Many interview questions are now evidence based so be prepared with examples of team-working, meeting deadlines under pressure and organising your time for example.

Practise answering questions by getting people around you to think of questions you may be asked. If you have to deliver a presentation, make sure you practice and time it first.

The Interview—top tips!

- **Re-read your written application and any course/role information before going in to familiarise yourself with the job/course you have applied for.**
- **Try to relax beforehand, there are lots of breathing techniques online if you get nervous.**
- **Take your time, if you are asked something you were not prepared for, have a sip of water to give yourself a few seconds to formulate your response.**
- **Try not to say “I don't know or I don't have that skill” instead, try to talk about how you would make sure you brushed up on that skill if you were successful.**
- **Remember, the interviewer wants you to do well too!**
- **If you are not successful ask for feedback to help you next time & if you are successful, remember to reward yourself!**

Good Luck!