

Choosing a Home Tutor



Working together to safeguard
all Islington's children



You may consider employing a home tutor for a variety of reasons, including:

- to assist your child generally with school work
- to help them improve on potential examination grades
- to learn a musical instrument or other extra-curricular activity

How to find a tutor for your child

You can find a private tutor by personal recommendation, through advertisements in the local press, tutoring agencies and the internet.

Your first point of contact should be to approach your child's school. Let them know that you are looking for private tuition for your child. The school may know of a member of staff who does private tutoring. All school staff will have undergone appropriate checks to ensure that there are no known reasons for restricting their work with children.

Choosing a tutor

When you choose a tutor you should act in the same way as any other employer. Always personally interview any potential tutor and ask to see their qualifications, recent references, and ask for explanations of any career gaps.

Ask to see the tutor's criminal record bureau (CRB) check to ensure they do not have a criminal record. Be aware that this check is only valid at the

date it was issued, therefore only details any offences prior to the date it was issued. A CRB check is not a guarantee against previous concerns that did not lead to a caution or a conviction.

You should also contact all the tutor's referees to ensure that the references are authentic.

You and your child should meet the tutor before tutoring begins. Observe the interaction between your child and the tutor to help inform your decision.

If you have any doubt about the suitability of the tutor – do not proceed with the tuition.

Tuition arrangements

Tuition should take place in a suitable open room in your own home, not a bedroom. If tuition takes place in the tutor's home you, or another trusted adult who you know, should remain on the premises. In either location, you should have access to the teaching area and all doors should be kept open.

Concerns

Encourage your child to talk to you about any concerns they may have about the tutor or the tuition. This could include:

- sharing personal details
- use of touch
- crossing personal boundaries
- 'special' relationships
- out of lesson communication
- taken to events
- secrecy

If your child tells you of any inappropriate behaviour, or any behaviour that makes them feel uncomfortable, you should dismiss the tutor from your employ without delay. If you've employed the tutor through an agency, they should be informed.

All concerns should be reported to:

Police: 0300 123 1212

Children's Social Care:
020 7527 7400

Local Authority Designated
Officer: 020 7527 8066



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