

Thinking of employing a private tutor or coach?

Many parents consider employing a private tutor (sometimes referred to as a coach) for their child at different stages of their educational life. Often this can be to help boost school work, preparation for exams or to learn a new musical instrument.

For many children this is a good and valuable experience assisting the child's development, self esteem and enjoyment.

Private tutors are employed directly by parents and carers. These tutors are not registered or licensed, and Local Authorities do not hold information about tutors.

Therefore it is important that when choosing a tutor, it is done carefully to ensure that it is beneficial and that your child is kept safe.



Choosing a tutor

Employing the best tutor for your child is vital, so taking time to get it right is important and will help keep your child safe. Here are some simple steps and checks to make to help you decide.

- Always interview the tutor and be satisfied that they answer your questions fully,
- Ask to see personal references and ensure you contact them to confirm the referees,
- Ask to see their qualification certificate,
- Ask to see their CV or employment record,
- If the tutor is a qualified teacher ask to see a copy of the tutors Teaching Agency Registration and a copy of their Criminal Record Check.

Thurrock Council is not responsible for the checking of private tutors.

Arrange a time for your child to meet the tutor so you can see if they get on and that your making the right choice!

Keeping your child safe

Where possible arrange for the tuition to be in your own home, in a quiet place which is well organised and suitable for study, away from the distractions of television and radio (a bedroom is not appropriate).

If tuition is in premises other than your home, always stay in the premises with your child and keep them within your sight.

Ensure that you or another trusted adult chosen by you remains on the premises. Any chaperone arrangement offered by the tutor should be declined.

Check that access for you is easy and that you can observe and hear activity at any time you wish.

If it is group tuition seek assurance that your child will remain with the group at all times.

Ensure your child is aware of any arrangements that have been agreed.

Speak with your child regularly to ensure they are happy with the arrangement and any agreements made with the tutor have been kept.

