gogokid

Performance Guide
For Applicants

The following performance guide is to give our prospective teachers an idea of what skills they will want to have and what skills they may need to develop to become an excellent Gogokid online ESL teacher.

Our criterion uses a star system to rank applicants. Three (3) stars indicate that the applicant's skill is excellent and sufficient to begin using our platform. Two (2) stars indicate that the applicant's skill requires improvement to continue the application process. Only one (1) star indicates that the applicant's skill requires much more improvement, otherwise, the application may be declined.

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1. Classroom Usage and Expansion

1) Reward System

In the virtual classroom there is an inbuilt reward system that uses an animation of a star to entice and motivate the students. The inbuilt reward system should be used in every class, every time a student does well. There is a maximum of 5 stars that can be given in any one class, so please give stars sparingly to last the duration of the class. In addition to this, it is encouraged that teachers prepare their own reward system to compliment the inbuilt one. Teachers may use their own reward system to make the classroom more interesting and engaging, but please be aware that your reward system should supplement, not replace the inbuilt reward system.

2) Use of Props

The teacher should have some teaching aids and props that they can use in order to make the content more interactive and interesting.

3) Extension and Explanation of Content

When the content is easily understood and followed by the student, the teacher can extend the content when possible. For example, the teacher can ask some questions regarding the topic. Gauge the student's English level and make sure the questions are suitable for the student. When the content is perhaps too difficult for the student, show mastery of explaining the content in different ways until the student can understand.

4) Use of Classroom Tools

The teacher should show flexibility and varying use of available classroom functions, such as the drawing tool, the text tool, and the color changing tool.

5) Lesson Objectives Fulfilled

The teacher should complete the lesson objectives within the class time (between 25-28 minutes).

For Trial Classes, the purpose is to encourage the student to feel comfortable and get used to an online class. For some students, it may be their first time seeing a foreign teacher. This is the teacher's chance to have fun while introducing a whole new world to the student. For Core Classes, the objectives depend on the lesson type. The student learns new vocabulary, sentences, math, and phonics. For Assessment Classes, the intention is to test the student on their accumulated knowledge. For Project Classes, the goal is to have the student complete a project and verbally present their project to the teacher.

6) Knowledge of Content

The teacher should know the lesson content before they enter the class. An excellent Gogokid teacher does not enter the classroom unprepared. Also, the teacher should prepare and use props and gifts attributing towards the lesson content.

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2. Teaching Techniques

1) TPR

Use Total Physical Response to aid the student's understanding. Use body language and gestures to explain phrases and verbs to the student.

2) Appropriate Speed of Speech

When in doubt, slow it down. The teacher's speech should be at a pace that the student can easily follow. Lower-level students should be spoken to at a slower pace, while higher-level students should be spoken to at a more conversational pace.

3) Appropriate Vocabulary and Explanation

The teacher's instructions should be clear and succinct. This is especially important when giving instructions to the student. Instructions should be explained in a simple manner, using as few words as possible.

4) Correction of Mistakes

When the student forms a sentence or pronounces a word incorrectly, the teacher is expected to use constructive criticism and constant encouragement. Pointing out a student's failure is not encouraged or supported in Gogokid and will not be tolerated.

5) Student Engagement

The teacher should continuously maintain the student's attention throughout the duration of the class. If the student is struggling to pay attention, the teacher is expected to creatively find a new way to gain the student's attention, whilst completing the lesson objectives. For example, the teacher and student can play repetition games or use props if the student becomes bored of repeating sentences.

6) Encouragement

The teacher should constantly be encouraging and giving the student the moral support to exceed the student's learning.

7) Making Content Understandable

When introducing new lesson content, the teacher should always break words and sentences down into smaller chunks so that the student can easily understand and learn. If the content seems too difficult, the teacher should find a way to simplify the content so that the student can understand.

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3. Presentability

1) Classroom Decoration

Having an online classroom means that the only thing the student sees is the teacher and what is behind the teacher! The teacher should decorate their background with warm and inviting educational props and colors. However, too many objects or colors may be distracting. The teacher is suggested to ask for a second opinion and keep adjusting to make their classroom more alluring and interesting for the student.

2) Attire

While it may be tempting to go enter the class with fuzzy PJ's on, just don't! The teacher should dress appropriately for every class. Gogokid's online teacher dress code is "smart-casual". We expect our teachers to not wear anything too revealing or inappropriate. Having a low neckline or off-the-shoulder shirt is not suggested or encouraged. Teachers should always look their best and professionally kept.

3) Lighting and Distance

The teacher should be easily visible with the lighting available in their room. A room without enough light can scare the student. Make sure there is a table lamp and plenty of light in the room. Also, the teacher should sit at an appropriate distance from their camera. If the teacher sits too close, they may scare younger students. If the teacher sits too far away, it may be difficult for the student to see their mouth forming the new vocabulary words.

4) Positive Attitude

The teacher should come to class with a friendly attitude in order to create a positive learning environment.

5) Clear Audio

The teacher should invest in a good headset for the clearest audio communication. If the student can't hear because of the teacher's audio they can't learn properly and may choose another teacher.

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