

Factors to Consider when Planning a Lesson

1. The length of time – is it a one-hour lesson or is it 50 minutes? Will I have a double lesson with the same students?
2. Tripping points – difficult topics that require time to explain for your students and yourself. Tripping points can also be for teachers, because they learn new knowledge while preparing for lessons.
3. The attainment of the students. ALWAYS avoid the word “ability”, because it can be offensive, since ability refers to a person’s capability. If a student has learning disabilities, then their ability is “low”, but if they have passed the exam, it will be good for them, whereas for others it may NOT be.
4. Check if there are students who require SEND as they need to be considered as well. If there are, you would also need to communicate with the teaching assistant.
5. Check their prior knowledge. For subjects such as: English, Maths and Science, they would have studied the subject back in primary school. For some subjects, they may need to start from scratch such as: German, a language that is NOT taught in ALL primary schools. The best way to check their prior knowledge is to compare the primary school curriculum.
6. Always introduce Key Content from the beginning so that students know what they will be taught from this lesson.
7. Keep Objectives Simple. If students are learning too much new knowledge all in once, even for the most capable ones, they WILL burn out. This will be the case for adults as well.
8. Well planned tasks throughout the lesson with interesting starter activities to keep students engaged right from the beginning.