

TRANSMATHS DP6 Interview Schedule

Give a brief reminder about what the project is about- i.e. why we are conducting the interview.

Schedule interview for about 30 minutes.

Leave time (e.g. 30 minutes) between subsequent interviews to write field notes- summary.

N.B. Remember to give interviewee £50 voucher for completion of 3 interviews.

1. **DECISION MAKING: Can you give us the story of how you came to be a student on this course?**
What were the significant events or moments?
How did you come to choose this course?
Did anyone or anything influence your decisions?
Do you think you made the right decision in taking this course?
Would you change anything if you had the chance to do it all again?
2. **CURRENT COURSE/DEGREE**
So what about the story over the past year? How has it been?
Looking back at your 1st year, do you think you were adequately prepared? If no, what could have been done differently?
Did you at any point think of dropping out? If yes, why didn't you? Or was it smooth sailing all the way?
How did you find the 'social' aspects of university life? Do you find that your social life is separate from your academic work?
What advice would you give to others who are starting your degree programme this year?

How are you finding your course this year (2nd year)?
How did you do in your 1st year assessments? Exams, assignments, specific maths units, overall year average
Has anything changed in your degree programme since last year (e.g. options, pathways)?
How does 2nd year differ from 1st year? Do you feel prepared?
3. **TRANSITION PRACTICES** (e.g. Drop in, LCR, diagnostic testing, maths units, induction, projects, MATLAB, etc) **Ask about relevant case specific transitional maths practices? Are you aware of/how do you find it/is it helpful/why? How helpful have they found it?**
4. **RELATION OF MATHS WITH COURSE: How do you feel about the maths on your course now ?**
How does maths fit into your course? How do you feel about that?
How would you describe the maths on your course?
How useful have you found maths in your other units/modules?
Can you give an example of how you have used maths?
Do you expect that maths will be useful in your degree in future years?
Have your feelings towards maths on your course changed since when you first started?
5. **LEARNING APPROACH TO MATHS: Thinking back on your first year, what have you learned?....in terms of maths?**
How have you gone about learning maths? Has your way of learning changed during the course of your first year at university?
Have you had some help?
formal –e.g. from lecturers
informal e.g. from friends?
How do you feel about tests and assessments?
Do you feel that the assessments reflect what you know/don't know?
Are there other ways that you find out what is expected of you?
6. **PEDAGOGY: How would you describe the teaching methods you have experienced during your first year at university? (prompt: particularly maths related units)**

Have they helped you to learn?

Lectures?

Tutorials?

Labs?

Group work?

Using Technology

Online support

Other?

Reflecting back, how were they different from those experienced in college/school?

How have they changed in Year 2?

How would you describe a 'good' student on your course? How well do you fit that ideal?

7. FUTURE: Tell me about your future plans.

Careers aspirations, etc

Can you name someone who represents the kind of mathematician/engineer/physicist/chemist etc. who you'd like to be or aspire to be? (e.g. Brunel) Why do you identify with that person? What is it about them that appeals? How prepared do you feel to get there? What things will make a difference? (e.g. course etc.)

8. ETHNICITY/CLASS/GENDER: How do you think your own background and neighbourhood where you live might have influenced your decisions and choices?

How have your decisions and choices been influenced by being male/female? By belonging to your ethnicity/ethnic group, or social background?

Has your background (ethnicity/class/gender) influenced the experience you've had on the course in anyway?