BACK TO EDUCATION

## 4 tips & tricks to know for acing school interviews BY JENNIFER MA

**EDUCATION** 

can often be counterproductive, as doing so tends to confuse students and make them feel nervous.

SHARE:

children to get prepared by having them digest as much information as possible before the interview. However, this

24 AUGUST 2021

School interviews are one of the biggest challenges in the school application process. Parents often urge their

on how parents can help their children get prepared for school interviews step by step!

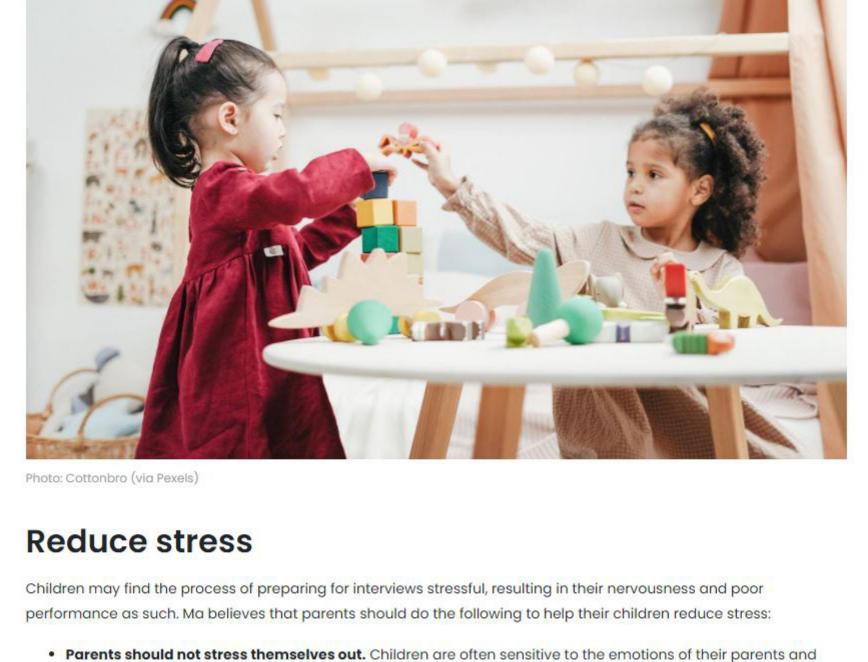
Luckily, we are getting some tips straight from the experts to help you and your little ones overcome the school interview process. Jennifer Ma, an education expert and the co-founder of Arch Education, gives us the lowdown



In order to help children understand the importance of admissions interviews, it is important for them to recognise the purpose of the interview exercise. It will enable them to understand why they have to be there, what they are

## children the benefits of excelling in admissions interviews—that way, children would be better able to take responsibility for their interview(s).

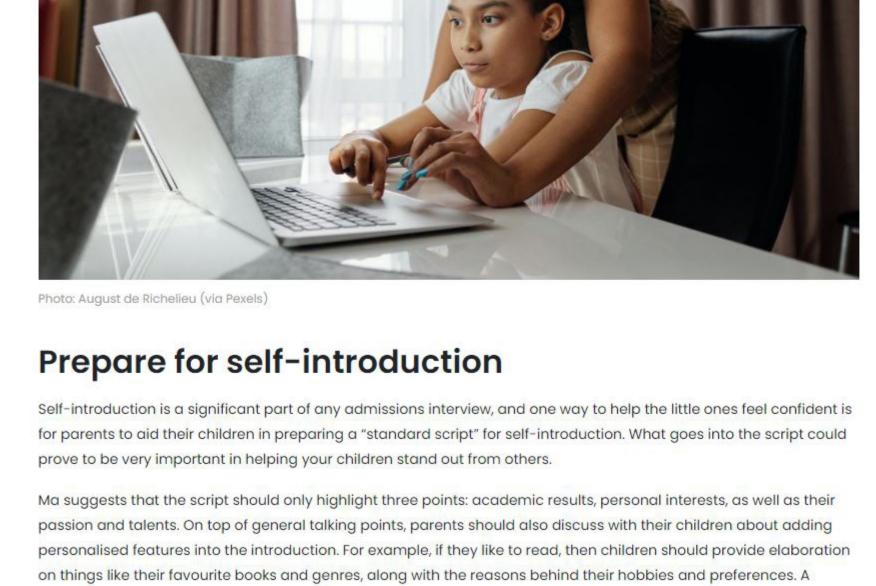
supposed to do, and how admissions interviews might impact their future. Parents should also explain to their



can sense their nervousness on the interview day based on several indicators, including how they dress and their moods. If parents stress themselves out, it will likely make the children feel nervous. Gain experience by interacting with different people. If children lack the experience of interacting with

will help them get used to the interview setting, allowing them to communicate with confidence.

different people, they may be shy about meeting different interviewers. Broadening children's social exposure



personal touch can leave a long-lasting impression in interviewers' minds.



Learn how to ask questions

interview questions. According to Ma, there are two ways for children to work around such difficulties:

For younger children who do not fully understand the questions, they could reply with the following: "As this is

Children may not always be able to understand exactly what interviewers are asking or know the answers to the

not something I have learnt yet, please could you tell me more about it?" Doing so would give interviewers the impression that the child is able to remain calm even when they are faced with something that is new to them, and more importantly, that they have the right attitude to learning. For older students, Ma would suggest them to start by paraphrasing the question, as this would give them more thinking time before responding to the question, such as: "For this question, do you mean to say that...?" Doing

so would enable them to narrow down the scope of potential answers and also acquire information from interviewers to better phrase their answers.

Acing a school interview in a competitive education environment like Hong Kong certainly is no walk in the park, but keeping these essential tips and tricks in mind will help children feel like they have control over what is expected of

them in their interviews, and also help parents prepare their little ones for the big day.