

METAPHORISING SCIENCE TEACHERS

BACHELOR OF EDUCATION AND BACHELOR OF
SCIENCE (JUPAS CODE: 6119)

Updated in May 2025





Short thematic
talk: Metaphorising
science teachers



Admissions tips



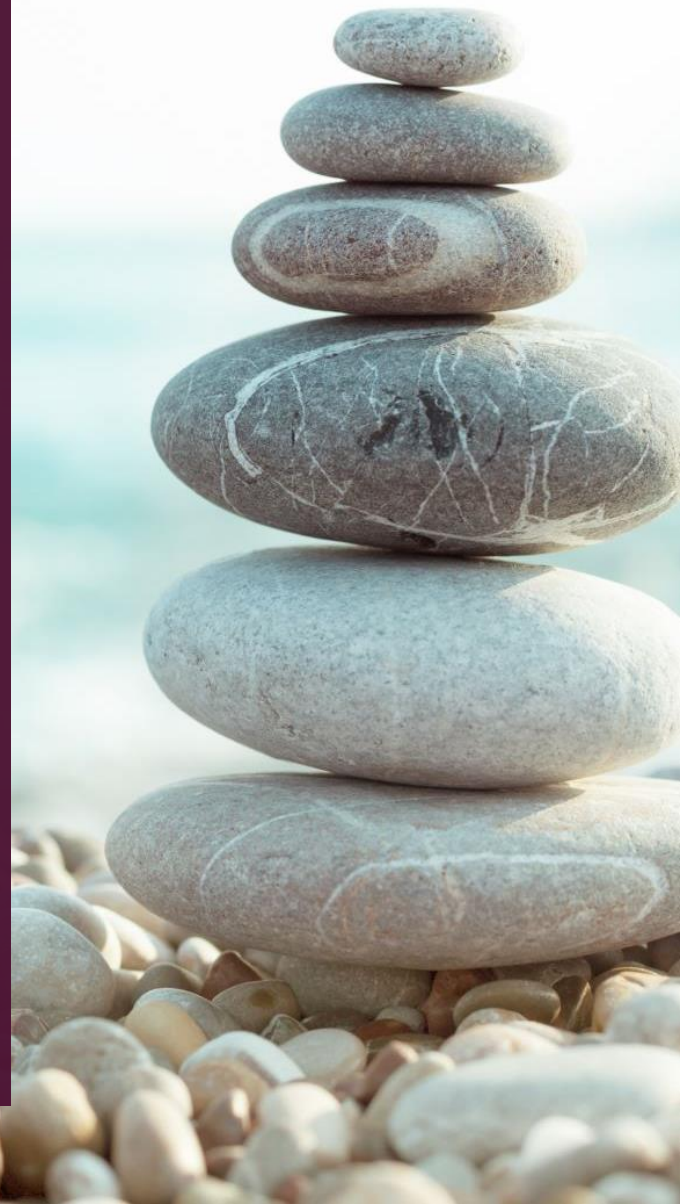
What our students
say



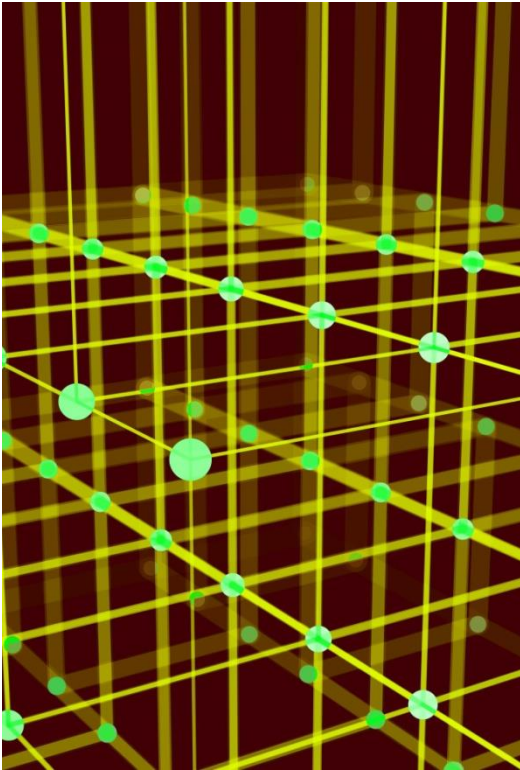
Q&A session

DESCRIBE A GOOD
SCIENCE TEACHER
(*PLEASE USE KEYWORDS*).

- “If a picture is worth a thousand words, a metaphor is worth a thousand pictures.” — Daniel Pink



METAPHOR



- Originates from a Greek word meaning “to carry across” (Schon, 1979).
- One can internalise one’s understanding of the *new situation* by relating new information directly to *prior experience* and thus metaphor offers a vehicle for learning about one’s own thinking.

METAPHORS: AS A TEACHER



Hamilton, E. R. (2016). Picture This: Multimodal representations of prospective teachers' metaphors about teachers and teaching. *Teaching and Teacher Education*, 55, 33-44.

A TEACHER IS

A gardener

A juggler

A second
parent

A tour guide

A superhero

A compass

A salesman
aiming to satisfy
customers

A conductor
leading an
orchestra



A SCIENCE TEACHER IS...

A LIFEGUARD

-
- “Science teacher is like a lifeguard because he has to be responsible to students and stay alert in various experiments.”

A MAGICIAN

-
- “Science teacher is like a magician, unveiling the mysterious and intriguing nature of science to the audience, who are the students. Every time when the teacher conducts an experiment, it is like performing a magic show. He/she amazes the students by showing a colour change or detecting a special smell, just like a magician surprises the crowd with an unbelievable magic.”

A STRAND OF DNA

-
- “Science teacher is like a strand of DNA because he inculcates useful science knowledge to his students and passes on the wisdom of science from the older generation.”

FRICTION

- “Science teacher is like friction. A good science teacher is friction that is useful. For example, the friction between the shoes and the floor makes us able to move forward which means a good science teacher can help student make improvements and make a step further. If lacking in this kind of friction, we may slip and not able to move.
- However, a bad science teacher is the friction that makes student difficult to get forward such as compressing student's creativity and imagination.”

REFLECTION TIME



What is your metaphor representing science teachers?



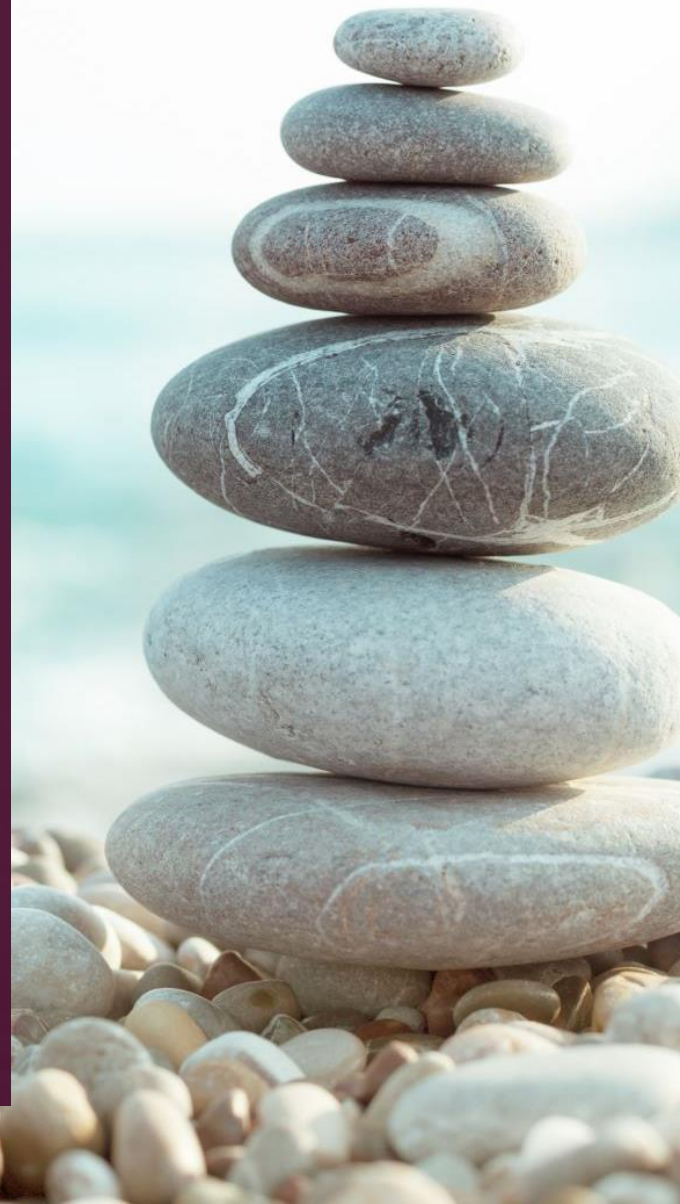
Does it distinguish science teachers from teachers of other subjects?



Does it distinguish good science teachers from any science teachers?

BECOMING REFLECTIVE PRACTITIONERS

- “We do not learn from experience ... we learn from reflecting on experience.”
— John Dewey





ADMISSIONS TIPS

ADMISSIONS SCORES

(WITH REFERENCE TO ADMISSIONS 2024)

HKDSE Scoring Formula (The scoring formula considers category A subjects and M1/M2 only, unless otherwise specified.)	Upper Quartile	Median	Lower Quartile
Eng + 1.5 x Math + 1.5 x Best Sci Subject + Best 2 Subjects with Weighting*	44	42	40

* Subject Weighting for 6119

x1.5

Biology
Chemistry
Combined Science
Integrated Science
Mathematics Extended Part (Module 1 or 2)
Physics

Conversions of Levels of Scores:

Level	1	2	3	4	5	5*	5**
Score	1	2	3	4	5.5	7	8.5

HKDSE SCORING FORMULA FOR 2025-26 ENTRY

HKDSE Scoring Formula for 2025 - 2026 Entry (The scoring formula considers category A subjects and M1/M2 only, unless otherwise specified.)

$\text{Eng} + 1.5 \times \text{Math} + 1.5 \times \text{Best Sci Subject}^{\wedge} + \text{Best 2 Subjects with Weighting}^1$

Consideration of Other Factors

► Additional subjects

Consideration of HKDSE Combined Results & Penalty for HKDSE Repeaters

► Best results in year 2024 and 2025

[^]"Sci Subject" refers to one of the following subjects, namely Biology, Chemistry, or Physics.

¹Subject Weighting(s)

X 1.5

Biology / Chemistry / Physics / Mathematics Extended Part (Module 1 or 2)



For more details, please visit:

<https://admissions.hku.hk/apply/jupas#admissions-standard>

STRATEGIES TO GET INTO THE BED&BSC PROGRAMME

- Only applicants who have put the programme as their **Band A** i.e. top 3 choices in JUPAS choice will be favourably considered
- Must take and obtain Level 3 or above in one of the following Science elective subjects: **Biology, Chemistry, or Physics**
- Achieve good results in Mathematics and English Language would lead to higher admissions scores
- Have a competitive edge for candidates studying more **Science elective subjects & M1/M2**, and achieving good results in these subjects
- Consider best results in years 2024 and 2025 only
- No interview in general

MYTHS ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

- I can take BEd&BSc as a stepping stone and transfer to BSc or other programmes in Year 2.

No. There is no exit point for the BEd&BSc programme. Internal transfer would be subject to the approval of the offering departments, and there is no guarantee of success.

- I can be a Mathematics teacher after graduation from this programme.

BEd&BSc does not offer Major in Mathematics. The programme aims to train qualified teachers in Science subjects in Hong Kong Primary[#] and Secondary Schools. Whether graduates can be recruited as a Maths teacher, it would be subject to the contractual agreement between graduates and their prospective employers (i.e. the Schools). Students are advised to declare Minor in Mathematics and take more Maths electives to enrich their knowledge during the 5-year of studies and add colours to their portfolios.

[#] Subject to approval, the curriculum is undergoing a revamp to include training for teaching primary science in addition to the existing training for teaching secondary science. The proposed changes are planned to be implemented for the 2025-26 cohort. Under the revamped curriculum, the Year 4 Professional Practicum will be on primary science.



Thank you!

NON-JUPAS ADMISSIONS

IB

Expected Lower Boundary for Admissions	32
Subject Requirements	Grade 4 or better in one of the following subjects: Mathematics: Analysis and Approaches (HL/SL), Mathematics: Applications and Interpretation (HL/SL); and Grade 4 or better in one of the following subjects: Biology (HL/SL), Chemistry (HL/SL), Physics (HL/SL)

GCE A-level

Expected Lower Boundary for Admissions	3A (excluding Chinese and English language subjects, Critical Thinking, General Studies, Global Perspectives and Research, Knowledge and Enquiry, Project Work, Thinking Skills, and Extended Project Qualification)
Subject Requirements	Grade A or above in one of the following AL subjects: Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Pure Mathematics; and Grade A or above in one of the following AL subjects: Biology, Chemistry, Physics



For admissions standards of other qualifications, please visit:

<https://admissions.hku.hk/apply/international-qualifications#admissions-standard>