

EDUDATE – TOP TIPS



Congratulations on signing up to Edudate! You're in for a fun and exciting day of dates when your next date day arrives and here's some tips to getting ready as the time nears and on the day.

1. ORGANISATION

For some of you Edudaters, this is going to be a busy day and organisation is key to managing dates and keeping track of those you want to get to know more or feel a bit of a spark from. Where possible, when scheduling dates, allow for a gap after your date so that you have a chance to reflect on what was said, how it went and what you thought.

You may want to jot some notes down so as to help refresh your memory as to who was who after seven or eight dates, whilst others of you that have more dates than that lined up might opt for an even more organised system involving spreadsheets, as we've seen on the #edudate feed at previous events. Make it work for you.

2. TWEETING

Tweet your way through this day. The rest of EduTwitter (and the wider Twitter community when they pick up on it) *love* seeing what's going on. GIFs are a great way to summarise dates if you don't want to give too much away with words. As well as that, you'll feel the sense of community and be able to connect with others beforehand and during. You'll get the sense of what others are doing in terms of drinks, dress and how it's going, though doing you is just as important might I add.

If you want to go on full stealth mode, in case your dates are following the hashtag, then write your tweets then save to draft. As the day goes on, release your saved tweets at random intervals – that'll really throw dates off the scent if they've managed to track you down online and thought they were going to get a hint of what you thought!

For some of you busier daters, your time may be limited in engaging with the hashtag anyway, but know that it's there before and after the event, not just during so you can connect with other daters and share experiences then too.

3. MAKE IT COUNT

It turns out that ten minutes goes *very* quickly! It's also very easy to discuss schools, after all, it is a common thread that is bringing us together. For some of you, school discussion may be a yay or a nay so think ahead as to whether you want to discuss it and for how long you'll be happy for it to take up in the ten minutes.

These ten minutes won't necessarily tell you if this person will end up being the love of your life, but it's the potential gateway for getting to know someone more and establishing whether there are common interests between yourselves. Set expectations right for you and see if someone intrigues you, where the ten minutes just wasn't long enough, and you'd wished you'd had just a little longer to get to know them a little better.

4. BE YOURSELF

This is dating – the act of getting to know someone in the hope of getting to talk to them again to find out more. Ultimately, you want to portray an authentic version of you as you date so, do you! If you want to have an alcoholic beverage as you date, even as early as 12pm, then you do it. Dress up, dress down, dress half and half based on where you'll hold your camera or have your laptop set up. You know you best, you know what makes you most comfortable and brings out the best you, so make it work around you.

For each of the points above, I've encouraged you to do it your way, whilst these hints and tips might help with calming nerves, answering questions and getting your systems and processes right from the off. Enjoy the moments, the contact with new people and the potential for getting a match at the end!

So happy dating, Eduaters! Enjoy it, embrace it and edudate your way through the afternoon of your next event.