



INITIAL TEACHER EDUCATION (ITE) ADMISSIONS POLICY

General academic entry requirements

The University welcomes applications from appropriately qualified students. International and European qualifications will be considered and evaluated by referring to independently published guides recognised within the United Kingdom higher education sector such as UK NARIC.

The Department for Education (DfE) requirements for entry to an ITE programme are:

- A UK First degree or equivalent qualification
- Achievement of a standard equivalent to a grade c/grade 4 in GCSE in English and mathematics. In addition those who intend to teach primary (pupils aged 3-11) also need to achieve a standard equivalent to grade c/grade 4 in Science
- Satisfactory references, fitness to teach assessment and safeguarding checks including a DBS check

For admission to our ITE programmes please see our [teacher training subject webpages](#) for our specific requirements regarding required degree classification and GCSE grades for each subject area/programme.

Suitability of subjects and subject combinations required

Legislation does not specify that teachers must have a degree in a particular subject or discipline. It is the Teachers' Standards that specify the subject knowledge required for the award of Qualified Teacher Status (QTS). All trainee teachers must meet these by the time they complete their training. There is no statutory requirement for primary trainee teachers to have a degree in a national curriculum subject, nor is there a requirement for secondary trainee teachers to have a degree in a specified subject, as long as they have a UK first degree or equivalent and are judged likely to meet the Teachers' Standards, including those that relate to subject and curriculum knowledge, by the end of their training.

Please refer to our [teacher training subject webpages](#) where, in some cases, we detail our provider-level requirements in respect of particular subjects or subject combinations that we believe provide the best preparation for study on that programme. This may include requirements regarding A level (or equivalent) subjects.

Other entry requirements

In addition to academic qualifications, when selecting candidates we will also take into account information provided within the personal statement, with particular attention to relevant prior experience.

We are required by Ofsted and the DfE to have in place rigorous selection processes, so that only applicants with excellent subject knowledge and aptitude (appropriate personal qualities, attitudes, ethics and values) for teaching enter training. The DfE's ITT Criteria states that ITT providers should consider the full range of applicants' knowledge, skills, academic background and prior experience to judge whether they have the capability to undertake an ITT course and meet the Teachers' Standards by the end of their training.

(<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/initial-teacher-training-criteria>)

The University has a responsibility to ensure that trainees have the health and physical capacity to teach and will not put children and young people at risk of harm. Applicants successful at interview will be required to complete a fitness to teach assessment and undergo safeguarding checks including an enhanced disclosure & barring service check (DBS). They are also required to provide satisfactory references.

The interview process

Admission to our PGCE programme involves an interview and we will provide details on how the interviews will be conducted and the criteria used to select successful candidates. Further information is available on our [Interviews page](#).

Interviews are usually face-to-face, at the St Luke's Campus but online interviews are also offered. During online interviews, applicants are responsible for ensuring they have the appropriate IT provision. This includes having a working camera which must be switched on during the interviews, a microphone and adequate WiFi.

During all interviews, the use of any translation or artificial intelligence (AI) software is not permitted. Use of such software could result in an applicant receiving an unsuccessful decision.

The University reserves the right not to consider an applicant for entry if the entrant has previously been withdrawn from the University on academic grounds or due to submission of fraudulent documentation, or who has previously failed or withdrawn from an ITE course. We recommend that such applicants seek further advice from the PGCE Admissions team before applying.

The offer-making process

The University will communicate our decision through the official channels of the DfE Apply system. An offer will be made in good faith, taking into account information as supplied by the applicant during the time of the application. Offers for ITE programmes will be conditional upon confirmation of academic requirements as well as meeting non-academic requirements e.g. safeguarding and medical checks and references which are deemed satisfactory by the University.

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