

DBS and Fitness to Teach Disclosures

Please read this very carefully. If you have any questions, please direct them to the interviewer towards the end of the interview at the time when you are asked if you have any questions.

Health and physical capacity to train to teach

St Mary's has a responsibility to ensure that trainees have the health and physical capacity to train to teach and will not put children and young people at risk of harm. As a consequence, you will be asked to alert us to any possible issues where it might help us to support you relating to your physical and mental health.

All successful applicants must pass a 'Fitness to Teach' assessment as a condition of joining the course. This involves the completion of a medical questionnaire that can then be referred to a qualified Occupational Health Specialist (OHS) who will assess the information against the government's expectations for teachers in training.

This provides an opportunity for support measures to be discussed if required between you and the OHS. Disclosure of conditions at an early stage is beneficial to both the University and the applicant as this allows a maximum time to ensure that appropriate support is put in place.

Failure to disclose a condition on the 'Fitness to Teach' questionnaire may result in the applicant having their registration on the programme discontinued if a pre-existing condition occurs that is affecting your progress or the learning of others.

Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks

St Mary's will have regard to the keeping children safe in education. During the course of the interview, you are likely to be asked questions related to any issues that may appear on your DBS form.

If successful at interview, an **enhanced UK** DBS check will be made as a mandatory requirement of all teacher training courses. Any failure to disclose issues that may appear on your DBS will result in your withdrawal from the course, no matter what stage of your training you have reached.

Overseas Police Check

If you are currently living outside of the UK or have lived outside of the UK for a period of more than six months over the last five years then we will also need a Police Check from each applicable country. The admissions office can provide further guidance on how to obtain these overseas police checks.