

Find out more

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2019 Entry

Information accurate at the time of printing, October 2018.

For up-to-date information please see our website.

PGCE Primary

Part-time (April start)

St Mary's
University
Twickenham
London



Postgraduate
Certificate

PGCE Primary

St Mary's partnership excels in supporting its students to be outstanding teachers.

"The course prepares students for the realities of life at school. Helping students to push themselves and approach new challenges with the right attitude. Helping students to really approach teaching children as the focal point of everything we do." Student, 2015

St Mary's provides "excellent academic and pastoral care for trainees".

Ofsted

Description

The PGCE Primary part-time programme provides training that combines academic rigour with personal and professional learning experiences. The training is designed to meet the needs of each trainee to support and develop the skills, knowledge and attributes you will need to start your teaching career. In preparation for your teaching role, you will be trained across the 5–11 age range, developing knowledge and practice to support your development of quality teaching and learning while working in dedicated partnerships with a range of schools.

Two awards are available for graduates who wish to become primary teachers. Both awards include Qualified Teacher Status (QTS):

- Postgraduate Certificate in Education (M) (PGCE(M)) with QTS
- Primary Professional Graduate Certificate in Education (H) (PfCE(H)) with QTS

The course runs over five school terms from mid-April to December the following year (20-month course length), with University-based sessions three days a week and 120 days' school-centred learning in partnership placements. The typical day for taught sessions starts at 9am and finishes at either 1pm or 2pm.

"Former St Mary's trainees are in great demand." Ofsted

In June 2017, 98% of our students had secured employment for September 2017. Support for the application and interview process is available during the course from the Careers Service on campus and specific workshops offered by Institute of Education staff.

Programme structure and content

The programme structure incorporates a balance of learning experiences through a mixture of University, school and educational settings which will support you on your learning journey. University-based teaching and learning is carried out three days a week – but the two assessed school placements are FULL TIME (five days a week). Teaching and learning is presented and assessed through various formats, including essays, a portfolio of evidence, audits and visual presentations. Modules for Masters support your development across all areas.

Whilst on the programme you will work in two different key stages or age phases, in two school placements, to ensure the broadest possible experience. You will also have the opportunity to take an enhanced placement in a school of your choosing. In each placement you will work alongside experienced teachers and will gradually assume more responsibility for planning and teaching as your training progresses. Throughout this process you will be supported by University-based mentors and a link tutor.

Developing discrete subject knowledge, understanding and skills across the full range of core and foundation subjects is a priority. Fostering development in computing, art, design and technology, geography, history, foreign languages and music is key to completing the course. The Professional Studies module

underpins the pedagogy and practice of being a teacher, including themes of managing behaviour for learning, special educational needs and disability (SEND), lesson planning for progression and working with children in challenging circumstances. The distinct nature of the University promotes high quality Physical Education and Religious Education, and all trainees undertake modules to support their religious and physical education understanding. The opportunity to study for the Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies (CCRS) is available. An optional additional 30 Masters credits can be undertaken through our summer school prior to starting your NQT year.

The intensity of the programme demands engagement, commitment, participation and self-motivated study. Strong academic and tutorial support is readily available from course tutors.

Partnerships

Our partnership schools offer a rich and diverse training programme for our trainees. We work with partner schools throughout London and a wide geographical area; we are partners with over 700 schools. During your placements, you will be guided from working with small groups of pupils alongside a class teacher towards taking responsibility for whole class teaching.

There are opportunities to work in SEND settings. An experienced teacher acts as mentor during the school placement and contributes to your overall assessment as a new teacher.

The partnership of St Mary's University with our students and schools continues beyond your training and into your NQT year through our Keeping in Touch (KiT) programme. This ongoing support and the continuation of your MA studies are available once you have entered the teaching profession.

Assessment

Assessment takes a variety of forms, including self-assessment, peer-assessment, micro teaching, presentations and tutor/teacher assessment. Essays, portfolios of evidence and visual presentations are the main assessment formats.



Entry requirements

First or second class degree from a UK university, or equivalent

Grade C or above in GCSE English, Maths and Science

At St Mary's, we would like all applicants to have made a fully informed decision about considering joining the teaching profession. As part of that decision-making process, spending some time in school(s) observing what teachers do and beginning to give some consideration to how they manage learning can be really insightful and informative

Physical and mental fitness to teach.

Completion of literacy and numeracy skills tests prior to course commencement

Satisfactory Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check

Apply via the UCAS Teacher Training website

10% fee reduction for alumni
