

Description: Prepares lessons and teaches young children in the first years of school.

Teach basic skills such as colour, shape, number and letter recognition, personal hygiene, and social skills.

Establish and enforce rules for behaviour, and policies and procedures to maintain order among students.

Observe and evaluate children's performance, behaviour, social development, and physical health.

Skills and qualities:

To have the ability to instruct students individually and in groups, adapting teaching methods to meet students' varying needs and interests.

To have the interest and ability to read books to entire classes or to small groups.

To have the confidence to demonstrate activities to children.

To have ability to provide a variety of materials and resources for children to explore, manipulate, and use, both in learning activities and in imaginative play.

To have the knowledge of how to plan and conduct activities for a balanced program of instruction, demonstration, and work time that provides students with opportunities to observe, question, and investigate.

To have the confidence and right approach and manner to confer with parents or guardians, other teachers, counselors, and administrators to resolve students' behavioral and academic problems.

To prepare children for later grades by encouraging them to explore learning opportunities and to persevere with challenging tasks.

Qualifications and Training:

Pathway 1:

Institution: Mary Immaculate College

Course/training title: Bachelor of Education honours degree

Basic entry requirements: entrants require the established leaving certificate with at least grade C3 in three higher level subjects and grade D3 in three subjects at ordinary or higher level. In addition applicants **must** have obtained a minimum of:

- Grade C3 in gaeilge higher level
- Grade D3 in english (higher level) or grade C3 in ordinary level
- Grade D3 in mathmatics (ordinary or higher level)

Admission Process: Apply through the CAO 470 (2011) plus garda vetting.

Course content: Programme

The three-year programme consists of six semesters.

Each semester has a fifteen-week duration.

Part 1 of the programme is equivalent to first year,

Part 2 to second and third years.

Part 1 In first year students are required to attend and read for approved courses in:

- Education
- Gaeilge
- Two academic subjects

Part 2 In second and third years candidates are required to attend and read for approved courses in:

- Education
- One of the academic subjects studied in first year in which a pass grade, at least, was obtained
- Gaeilge Ghairmiúil (for students not taking Gaeilge as an Academic Subject)

Education

The Education course comprises pedagogy of curricular areas, theoretical education and teaching practice in schools.

Pedagogy modules are designed to equip students with the skills and competencies required to teach all subjects of the Primary School Curriculum: Drama, English, Gaeilge, Mathematics, Music, Physical Education, Religious Education, Social Environmental & Scientific Education, SPHE, Science Education and Visual Arts.

An understanding of Education's knowledge base is provided in theoretical education: History of Education, Philosophy of Education, Psychology of Education and Sociology of Education.

Students are required to take all Education modules, including teaching practice modules, in Parts 1 and 2 of the programme.

Course duration: 3 years full time

Pathway 2:

Institution: National university of Ireland Maynooth

Course/training title: Bachelor of education honors degree

Basic entry requirements: entrants require the established leaving certificate with 3HC3 including Irish, 3OD3 including Mathematics and OC3/HD3 English.

Admission Process: Applicants apply through the CAO 465 (2011) with garda vetting required.

Course content: -First Year

- History of Education
- Psychology Module 1 (Child Psychology)
- Psychology Module 2 (Language Study)
- Gaeilge
- English
- Mathematics
- Modhanna Múinte na Gaeilge
- English Methods
- Mathematics Methods
- Social, Environmental and Scientific Education (SESE)
- Social, Personal and Health Education (SPHE)
- Professional Development
- Early Childhood Education
- Visual Arts Education
- Drama Education
- Music Education
- Inclusive Education
- Religious Education

- Physical Education
- Teaching Practice

Second Year

- Sociology of Education
- Psychology Module 3 (Child Psychology)
- Psychology Module 4 (Language Study)
- Gaeilge
- English
- Mathematics
- Modhanna Múinte na Gaeilge
- English Methods
- Mathematics Methods
- SESE
- Professional Development
- Visual Arts Education
- Drama Education
- Music Education
- Inclusive Education
- Religious Education
- Physical Education
- ICT in Primary Teacher Education
- Teaching Practice
- Elective Study

Third Year

- Philosophy of Education
- Psychology Module 5 Educational Psychology)
- Psychology Module 6 (Curriculum and Assessment)
- Gaeilge
- English
- Reading and Literacy / Litearthacht agus Léitheoireacht
- Teaching Primary Mathematics

- Visual Arts Education
- Drama Education
- Music Education
- SESE
- SPHE
- Professional Development
- Religious Education
- Physical Education
- Early Childhood Education
- ICT in Primary Teacher Education
- Teaching Practice
- Elective Study

Fourth Year

- Research Methods
- Induction
- Two additional modules from a menu of options
- Dissertation
- Teaching Practice

Course duration: 4 years full time

Evaluation of my selected career:

My aptitudes and how they link to this career: I am very good with children and i enjoy their company. I have always liked working with them and being the eldest in my family i have experience with minding children and tending to their needs. I have a strong passion for the irish language and understand this is a good aptitude to hold as irish is a dominant feature of

the course. I am a confident person and would enjoy sharing my knowledge with young children.

My interests and how they link to this career: I have an interest in sport and play football and basketball with my local clubs. This interest would contribute to the job and I would be able to share my skills with the students during physical education classes. I also participate in set dancing classes in my local area and I teach young children set dancing also. This experience of teaching has given me a greater insight of how to deal with children. These interests link with the career as they are both an interaction with children.

Two of my leaving cert subjects that link to this career: The two subjects that link to this career are Home economics and Geography. Home economics which is my favourite subject teaches me the rights, responsibilities and the role of children in this society. I think this is essential information to know before going into this course and will give me good background information for further study. The subject Geography teaches me social studies and the economic factors in our society which I feel is a good indication of how the system works in Ireland. I am glad I have chosen these subjects so I can pursue my dream career in teaching.

Out of class learning experience:

Evaluation of Career Investigation:

Insight Gained: Having completed this career investigation, I believe that I will pursue a career in primary school teaching. I

am going to apply for Primary school teaching in Mary Immaculate as my first choice. I will need to get at least 470 points in my leaving cert. It will take 3 years to qualify with a bachelor's degree.

The investigation has thought me: about the entry requirements for primary school teaching and the other possibility of going to the National college of ireland in Maynooth. I have found it to be a very positive and useful investigation. I now fully understand the skills and qualities that go with teaching and dealing with young children. I feel i have the potential to fullfill the role as a teacher. It also has thought me the points i am aiming for in my leaving cert and has made me more focused about studing hard to achieve these results. I have realised the importance of investigating a career and how much it teaches you and makes you aware of the course content and what you must study at college in order to achieve qualification. Without investigating this career i would not have learned all of the above. It gave me a positive attitude about what i want to do after school.

Skills developed: This investigation has helped me to develop my skills in research, analysis, reporting, communication, social and organisation.

Signed:

Date: