

OPEN THE DOOR TO HIGH
QUALITY TEACHER
PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

KEY INFORMATION



MASTER OF EDUCATION PROGRAMME 2025-2026



St Mary's
University College
Belfast
A College of Queen's University



GENERAL INFORMATION

The contribution of St Mary's to Teacher Professional Learning consists of a range of accredited modules that may be taken on a stand-alone basis or that may contribute to one of the following awards:

- Postgraduate Certificate in Education Studies (PgCert)
- Postgraduate Diploma in Education Studies (PgDip)
- Master of Education (MEd)



Entrance Requirements

Candidates for admission to the MEd programme in Education should normally hold either:

- (a) Qualified teacher status and an honours degree or equivalent qualification or
- (b) An honours degree or equivalent qualification with at least two years' professional experience in an educational, training or professionally related context.

Application Procedure

Application for a part-time MEd course can be made online at <https://bit.ly/44wDuoJ>.

Application forms for entry to the MEd programme should be submitted to the Academic Registry Office no later than two weeks prior to the commencement of a course.

Late applications will be considered subject to the availability of places.

Existing MEd students can make upcoming module choices here <https://forms.office.com/e/KKmmU3KQXv>

Postgraduate Tuition Fee Loan

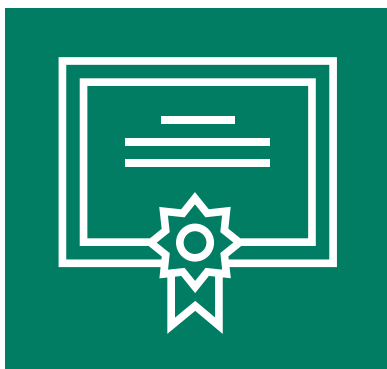
Students starting a postgraduate course are able to apply for a Postgraduate Tuition Fee Loan (PG TFL) of up to £6,500.00. The PG TFL is non-means tested and is paid directly to the Higher Education provider.

For further information please contact the College Finance Office, telephone **028 9026 8234**.

Finance

Students wishing to complete a course do so on a self-funding basis, although financial support may be sought from a Board of Governors. In the academic year 2024-2025 the following fees will apply:

M-Level points 2024-2025	Fee
10	£406
20	£811
30	£1,217
60	£2,434
Bridging application fee	£48
Bridging assignment fee	£190



M-LEVEL ACCREDITED COURSES

Postgraduate Certificate in Education Studies

The Postgraduate Certificate is awarded to those students who have accumulated 60 MEd credit points. The course may be completed over one academic year, or students may build up the required number of modules over a period of up to five years. Students can select modules from any option listed in this booklet.

Postgraduate Diploma in Education Studies

The Postgraduate Diploma is awarded to those students who have accumulated 120 MEd credit points. Students may build up the required number of modules for a period of up to five years. In order to obtain a named Postgraduate Diploma in a specialist option, students must take a minimum of two modules within the selected option.

Master of Education

The MEd is awarded to those students who have accumulated 180 MEd credit points which include a 15,000-20,000-word dissertation. The dissertation is equivalent to 60 MEd credit points. Students may build up the required number of taught modules and complete the dissertation over a period of up to five years.

In order to obtain a Masters degree in a specialist option, students must take a minimum of two modules within the option, an Educational Research Methods module, and one other module of their choice, as well as complete an MEd dissertation worth 60 MEd credit points.

MEd/PG DIPLOMA SPECIALIST OPTIONS

Specialist options apply to the Master of Education and Postgraduate Diploma courses only. For the purpose of continuity, students are advised to take a specialist option. The research module is compulsory for anyone wishing to undertake the MEd dissertation. To be awarded a named Masters degree, the dissertation must also be in the area of study of the specialist option. The remaining module(s), subject to availability and timetable restrictions, may be chosen from the full range of modules detailed in the prospectus.

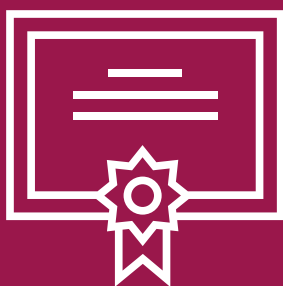
Students should note that not every module will be available every year within a course of study.

The following is a list of specialist options:

- Curriculum Development and Primary Education
- Developing Physical Education, School Sport and Coaching Science
- Early Years Education
- Irish and Irish-Medium Education
- Leadership in Catholic Schools
- Leadership for Learning
- Pastoral Issues
- Special Education

For further information please refer to:

<https://www.smucb.ac.uk/MPros/>



SEMESTER ONE AND TWO MODULES

30-Point Modules



Semester One: Commencing September 2025

*Saturdays (four Saturdays
September - October 10.00am – 4.00pm)*

EDC7021 Educational Research Methods

EDC7053 Personal Development: Promoting the Health and Well-Being of Teachers and Pupils

EDC7069 Pupil Learning through Physical Education and School Sport

EDC7082 Music Therapy in Education

Wednesday (5.15pm – 7.15pm)

EDC7075 Promoting Numeracy and Literacy Competence in Irish-medium Settings

EDC7090 Designing the Wellbeing School

Work-Based Learning (Online)

EDC7087 Autistic Voice and SEN Practice

EDC7092 Education for Sustainable Futures

Semester Two: Commencing January 2026

*Saturdays (four Saturdays
January - February 10.00am – 4.00pm)*

EDC7077 Building Capacity in Schools: Advancing Inclusivity to Raise Pupil Outcomes

EDC7085 Understanding and Supporting Autistic Children and Young People in Education

Wednesday (5.15pm – 7.15pm)

EDC7041 Children and Young People in Crisis: Pastoral Responses

EDC7089 A Specialised Irish Language Course for teachers: knowledge and proficiency

EDC7091 Leading the Wellbeing School

*Work-Based Learning
(Online Monday 7.00pm – 9.00pm)*

EDC7021 Educational Research Methods

EDC7078 Current Issues and Future Directions in Physical Education and School sport

SUMMER SCHOOL

July 2025 and July 2026

Summer School: July 2025

30-Point Modules

Tuesday 1st July – Monday 7th July (10:00am – 4:00pm) (excluding weekend)

EDC7004	Approaches to Education in the Early Years
EDC7012	Behaviour Issues in the Context of Special Educational Needs
EDC7013	Contemporary Management Issues for the Effective School
EDC7015	Leaders in Catholic Schools
EDC7070	Developing Coaching Science and Physical Education in Schools
EDC7079	Understanding, Supporting and Teaching Pupils with Specific Literacy Difficulties
EDC7081	Putting the Sting into STEM (a thematic approach)
EDC7088	Art for Wellbeing in Schools

20-Point Module

Tuesday 1st July – Wednesday 2nd July (10:00am – 4:00pm)

EDC7076	Study of Native Irish Speech
---------	------------------------------

10-Point Module

Thursday 3rd July (10:00am – 4:00pm) (excluding weekend)

EDC7043	Eloquence and Accuracy of Expression in Irish
---------	---

Summer School: July 2026

30-Point Modules

Tuesday 1st July - Monday 7th July (10.00am - 4.00pm) (excluding weekend)

EDC7006	Principles into Practice in the Early Years
EDC7015	Leaders in Catholic Schools
EDC7059	Contemporary Leadership Issues for the Effective School
EDC7070	Developing Coaching Science and Physical Education in Schools
EDC7079	Understanding, Supporting and Teaching Pupils with Specific Literacy Difficulties
EDC7081	Putting the Sting into STEM (a thematic approach)
EDC7088	Art for Wellbeing in Schools
EDC7093	The ABC of Numeracy and Maths: Accessibility Barriers and Creativity

20-Point Module

Thursday 2nd July – Friday 3rd July (10:00am – 4:00pm)

EDC7076	Study of Native Irish Speech
---------	------------------------------

10-Point Module

Wednesday 1st July (10:00am – 4:00pm)

EDC7043	Eloquence and Accuracy of Expression in Irish
---------	---

MEd PROGRAMME - BUILD ON YOUR STRENGTHS AS A TEACHER

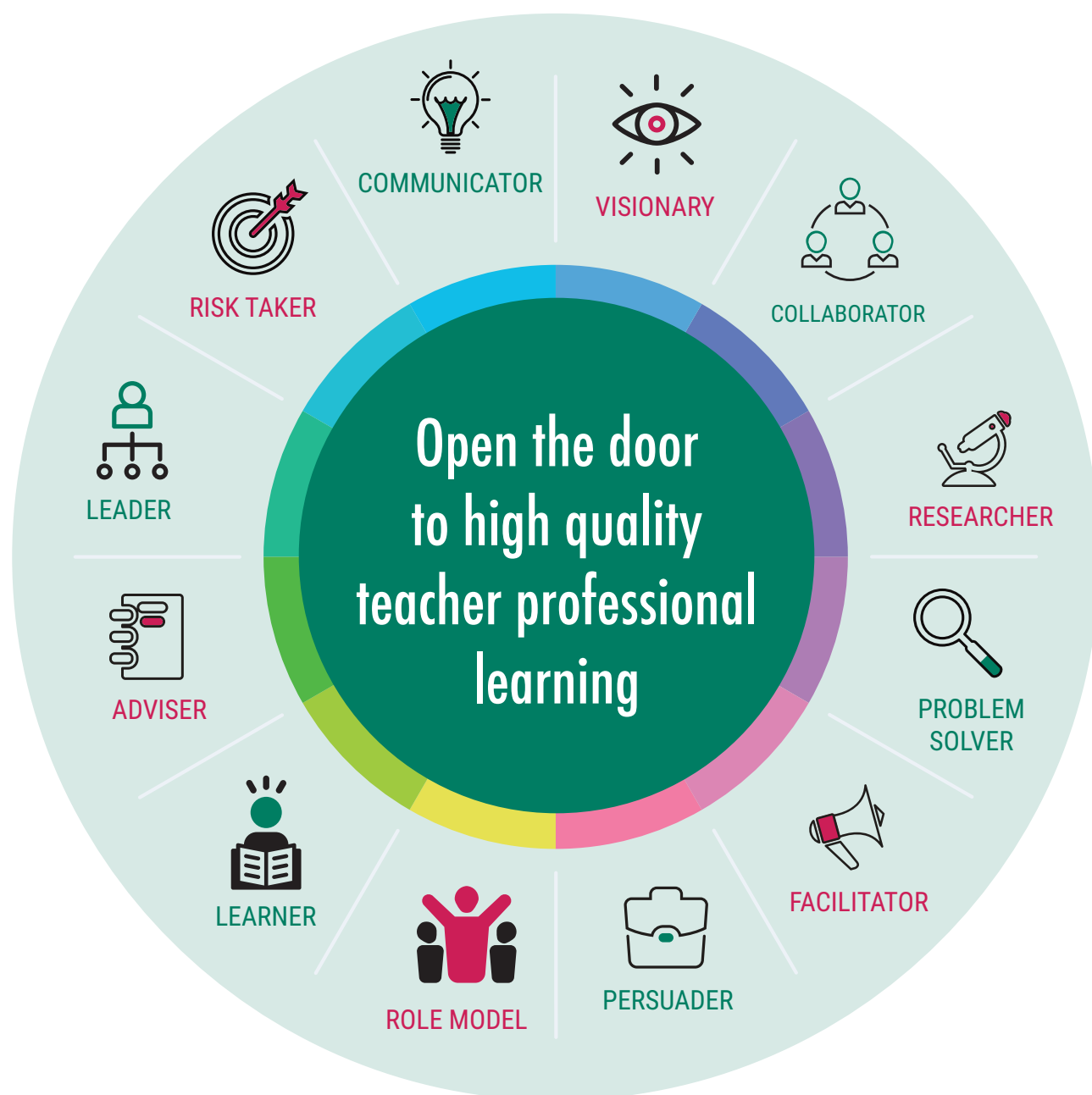


Figure 1: Build on your Strengths as a Teacher

Adapted from, Department of Education for Northern Ireland (DENI) (2017)
Learning Leaders: A Strategy for Teacher Professional Development, Belfast, DENI.

INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

St Mary's University College
Belfast has made all reasonable
efforts to ensure that the
information in this guide is
accurate and up to date when
compiled.

**Published by St Mary's
University College ©2025.**

