

Your part-time

route into primary teaching



Faculty of Education



One of the UK's largest and most prestigious teacher training institutions



Canterbury Christ Church University (CCCU) was founded in 1962 and is renowned for academic excellence, a friendly, welcoming atmosphere and community spirit.

We are the largest centre for higher education in Kent for the public services – notably teacher training, nursing, policing, health and social care – and a significant provider of programmes in a wide range of academic and professional areas.

In total we offer over a thousand academic and professional programmes at undergraduate and postgraduate level.

The Faculty of Education at CCCU is one of the University's leading edge academic units and is recognised nationally as a centre of excellence for teacher education and development.

PGCE Primary Part-time

You can become a qualified primary teacher after 20 months of part-time study. The course runs over five academic terms and begins in April every year. The course will enable you to become a confident, competent classroom practitioner who can enable children to learn effectively across the whole curriculum. Two age ranges are available for you to study, 3-7 or 5-11 year olds. You will also have the opportunity to gain academic credits at Masters' Level.

Who is this course suitable for?

This PGCE is designed for people with additional commitments; the majority of the current and former students successfully combine studying the course with part-time working and/or bringing up a family. If you have some recent experience (the equivalent of two weeks or more) of working or volunteering in a Primary school and would like to become a teacher this course is for you.

What will I study?

The course has been planned to meet the criteria set out by the TDA standards and requirements for Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) and has the following main modules:

Module 1: Professional Placement

Module 2: Professional Studies

Module 3: Curriculum Studies

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed through a combination of professional placement and coursework. There are no examinations. Each professional placement is assessed against the standards by a combination of university and school staff through formal observations of teaching. In order to be awarded the Primary PGCE you will be required to reach a satisfactory standard in each assessed element of the course and reach the standards required for the recommendation of the award of QTS.

Location

Broadstairs, Medway or Salomons

You will attend your centre one day per week. If you study at Salomons you will be taught on Tuesdays or Wednesdays. At Medway your day will be Wednesdays and at Broadstairs it will be Thursdays. In addition to this you will attend approximately three Saturdays each term at the Canterbury campus. The taught days last from 9.30am – 4.30pm. It is essential that you have access to computer facilities to enable you to access the University's extensive websites and other relevant resources.

Professional placements

During your course, approximately 17 weeks will be spent on full-time placements in schools and other learning settings in Kent, Medway, Essex, East Sussex, Bromley and Bexley. The 17 weeks is made up of a two week observation placement in late April – May just as you start the programme, a 3 week block during the first November, a 4 week block in March and a final 7 week block from October to December as you are about to complete.

In addition to this you will undertake one week of research during June. Each block of placement is preceded by Visit Days, where you attend your placement setting instead of University on your normal University day.

Our Partnership Office make the placements and try to keep them as close to your home as possible, although you should be prepared for a journey of up to 45 minutes each way. During placements you will probably need to arrive at school by about 8am and the finishing times will vary throughout the week.

What support is available?

Many students starting this course have not studied at this level for some time. Support is available in many different ways and for many purposes. The PGCE Part-time tutor team members are very approachable and dedicated to supporting students, the University central support services are all available to part-time students free-of-charge. These include financial support and advice, support and advice with academic work, support for students with disabilities and a range of other services.

Entry requirements

You should have a good honours degree - in some cases an honours degree below a Lower Second class (2:2) may be considered if you also have a Master's qualification. GCSEs in English language, mathematics and science (grade C or above), or acceptable equivalents are also required. To be selected for interview you must have a positive reference, be able to demonstrate recent experience of working with primary age children (preferably in a school setting) and be able to analyse this in the personal statement section of your application form. It is important that you clearly state why you want to be a primary school teacher in your personal statement. Offers of a place are only made after an interview and are subject to a satisfactory health clearance and a Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) check.

Tuition fees

For information on tuition fees, bursaries and grants, go to:

www.canterbury.ac.uk/PGCEfinance

How do I apply?

All applications are submitted directly to the University. To download an application form, go to: www.canterbury.ac.uk/PGCEapply

The closing date is when the programme is full. Interviewing has started, so apply now to avoid disappointment.

Useful information

Faculty of Education Information Office
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www.canterbury.ac.uk/education/pgce