

## Programme Specification (Postgraduate)

FOR ENTRY YEAR: 2026/27

Date created: 11/11/2022

Last amended: 15/04/2025

Version no. 1 Date approved by EQED:

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*Please note, this programme is currently undergoing review as part of the University's continuous cycle of curriculum enhancement. The information in Appendix 1 represents the current structure and content of the programme. Any future enhancements to the programme in terms of content will be communicated to applicants and offer holders once finalised.*

### 1. Programme title(s) and code(s):

- a) Postgraduate Certificate in Education (Primary)
- b) Professional Graduate Certificate in Education (Primary)\*
- c) Postgraduate Certificate in Educational Studies\*

#### Notes

\* An award marked with an asterisk is only available as an exit award and is not available for students to register onto.

Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) is a combined academic and professional qualification. Academic component: 60 credits at level 7 (upon passing ED7420 and ED7421, two 30 credit level 7 assignments); an additional optional 30 credits at level 7 are available (upon passing ED7435). Professional component: 60 credits at level 6 with a recommendation for Qualified Teacher Status (QTS), based on meeting the DfE Teachers' Standards in school placements.

The Professional Graduate Certificate in Education is an exit award for students who pass the academic assignments at level 6 rather than level 7. Academic component: 60 credits at level 6 (upon passing ED7420 at level 6 and ED7421/ED3421). Professional component: 60 credits at level 6 with a recommendation for Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) based on meeting the DfE Teachers' Standards in school placements.

Due to the nature of DfE accreditation, QTS cannot be recommended separately from the Postgraduate/Professional Graduate Certificates in Education. Consequently, QTS can only be recommended if 120 credits are awardable, i.e. in addition to passing the professional component, the academic component must be passed at level 6 or 7 for QTS to be recommended.

The Postgraduate Certificate in Educational Studies is an exit award available to those students who successfully complete both the academic assignments at level 7 but fail/fail to complete the professional component of the course. 60 level 7 credits are awarded but *without a recommendation for QTS*.

Specialism	Code
Primary (5-11)	X174

Table 1: The PGCE with course code. [PGCE Primary course is offered through both the University-led and Lead Partner routes.](#)

#### HECOS Code

HECOS Code	%
[100511]	[100 %]

### 2. Awarding body or institution: University of Leicester

3. a) **Mode of study Full-time**  
b) **Type of study Campus-based**

#### 4. **Registration periods:**

Postgraduate Certificate in Education

The normal period of registration is 1 year

The maximum period of registration 2 years

#### 5. **Typical entry requirements**

In addition to university entry requirements, the Department for Education (DfE) specify entry requirements for all accredited initial teacher training (ITT) courses.

DfE requirements: All entrants have achieved a standard equivalent to a grade 4 in the GCSE examinations in English and mathematics and hold a first degree of a United Kingdom higher education institution or equivalent qualification.

First degree at honours level: 2:2 is the minimum requirement (UK equivalent), preferably 2:1. Mathematics, English and Science GCSE (or equivalent) must have passed at level 4 (grade C) or above.

#### 6. **Accreditation of Prior Learning**

No accreditation for prior learning will be available.

#### 7. **Programme aims**

The programme aims to:

- a) Develop pedagogical skills for the primary age range.
- b) Support students to become reflective and effective classroom practitioners
- c) Prepare students to meet the Teachers' Standards (appropriate for a student teacher/trainee prior to the award of QTS)
- d) Develop a critical understanding of educational theories, including theories of learning and pedagogical theory, and their implications for practice
- e) Draw out the reflexive relationships between theory and practice, that supports students to understand of the role of educational research in developing practice and how reflecting on practice can deepen and further understanding
- f) Develop the skills of research and analysis as applied to teaching, particularly in relation to the noticing and interpretation of classroom activities, the assessment of learning and the deconstruction and evaluation of teaching.

#### 8. **Reference points used to inform the programme specification**

- QAA Benchmarking Statement
- Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)
- UK Quality Code for Higher Education
- [Education Strategy](#)
- [University Assessment Strategy \[log in required\]](#)
- University of Leicester Periodic Developmental Review Report
- External Examiners' reports (annual)
- United Nations Education for Sustainable Development Goals
- Student Destinations Data
- Ofsted ITE inspection framework

- Initial teacher training (ITT): criteria and supporting advice
- Teachers' Standards (Department for Education): A statutory requirement for recognition as an Initial Teacher Education provider is that the Teachers' Standards (professional QTS standards for teachers in England) are assessed and included in programme specifications.
- Core Content Framework (Department for Education): Outlines minimum curriculum requirements for ITT courses.
- SSC – Student Staff Council feedback

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### 9. Programme Outcomes

Unless otherwise stated, programme outcomes apply to all awards specified in 1. Programme title(s).

#### a) Discipline specific knowledge and competencies

The PGCE is a combined academic and professional course, with academic elements and teaching competences an interrelated body of knowledge and skills. As such, the course is not taught in discrete modules and taught sessions address a range of discipline specific knowledge and competencies. Consequently, the teaching methods and learning activities are common to many of the following categories. Moreover, the PSRB categories do not align with the University of Leicester Programme ILO categories. Consequently, the Teachers' Standards (PSRB) are listed under the most appropriate Programme ILO category but there will be overlap with other sections.

#### i) Knowledge

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Students should be able to: Develop and apply a systematic understanding of knowledge related to educational research, policy and practice, <i>including knowledge about Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI), particularly those associated with schools in England.</i>	University-based lectures, seminars, (including external speakers and expert colleagues (a school based expert))  University-based workshops (including delivery by expert colleagues).  <i>Observation of and structured discussions with qualified teachers</i>	Engagement with lectures, seminars, workshops.  Directed peer and independent activities, including directed reading and writing  Micro-teaching  <i>School placement experiences</i>	Written assignments (level 7)  Essay  Written report  Controlled assessment  <i>Professional competencies (level 6)</i>  Oral presentation  Optional module: Reflective Journal (level 7)
Students should be able to: Apply the models of learning from a range of schools of thought and their underpinning principles.	University-based lectures, seminars, (including external speakers and expert colleagues)	Engagement with lectures, seminars, workshops.	Written assignments (level 7)  Essay  Written report

	University-based workshops (including facilitation by expert colleagues).	Directed peer and independent activities, including directed reading and writing  Micro-teaching, including within ITPs (Intensive Training and Practice)	Controlled assessment  Optional module: Oral presentation (level 7)
Students should be able to: <i>Develop and apply common pedagogical practices and evaluate their associated rationales.</i>	University-based lectures, seminars, (including external speakers and experts colleagues)  University-based workshops (including facilitation by expert colleagues).  <i>Observation of and structured discussions with qualified teachers</i>	Engagement with lectures, seminars, workshops.  Directed peer and independent activities, including directed reading and writing  Micro-teaching  School placement experiences	Written assignments (level 7)  Essay  Written report  Controlled assessment  <i>Professional competencies (level 6)</i>  Optional module: Oral presentation (level 7)
<i>Demonstrate good subject and curriculum knowledge (secure subject knowledge with a critical understanding of subject and curriculum developments; promote high standards of literacy, articulacy and use of standard English)</i>	<i>Observation of and structured discussions with qualified teachers</i>  University-based lectures, seminars, (including external speakers and expert colleagues)  University-based workshops (including delivery by expert colleagues).	<i>School placement experiences</i>  Directed independent activities, including lesson planning and review, and student reflections  Micro-teaching	<i>Professional competencies (level 6)</i>

ii) Concepts

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Students should be able to: <i>Apply knowledge and concepts to pedagogical contexts, with</i>	University-based lectures, seminars, (including external speakers and expert colleagues)	Engagement with lectures, seminars, workshops.	Written assignments (level 7)  Essay

relationships between learning and pedagogy explored, drawing on different schools of thought to develop an understanding of affordances and limitations of different lenses.	University-based workshops (including delivery by expert colleagues). <i>Observation of and structured discussions with qualified teachers</i>	Directed peer and independent activities, including directed reading and writing Micro-teaching <i>School placement experiences</i> ITPs	Written report Controlled assessment <i>Professional competencies (level 6)</i> Oral presentation Optional module: Reflective Journal (level 7)
Students should be able to: Understand learning and pedagogy as complex constructs, with academic and practice perspectives drawn together to facilitate the ongoing process of developing understanding of classrooms and classroom practice.	University-based lectures, seminars, (including external speakers; expert colleagues) University-based workshops (including facilitation by expert colleagues). <i>Observation of and structured discussions with qualified teachers</i>	Engagement with lectures, seminars, workshops. Directed peer and independent activities, including directed reading and writing Micro-teaching School placement experiences ITPs	Written assignments (level 7) Essay Written report Controlled assessment <i>Professional competencies (level 6)</i> Oral presentation Optional module: Reflective Journal (level 7)

iii) Techniques

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Students should be able to: Find relevant academic and professional sources, identifying and summarising key evidence.	University-based lectures, seminars, (including external speakers and expert colleagues) University-based workshops (expert colleagues).	Engagement with lectures, seminars, workshops. Directed peer and independent activities, including directed reading and writing Micro-teaching	Written assignments (level 7) Essay Written report Controlled assessment <i>Professional competencies (level 6)</i>

			<p>Oral presentation</p> <p>Optional module: Reflective Journal (level 7)</p>
<p>Students should be able to:</p> <p>Systematically review practice and interrogate knowledge, beliefs and values related to those practices (reflective practice).</p>	<p>University-based workshops.</p> <p><i>Observation of and structured discussions with qualified teachers</i></p>	<p>Directed peer and independent activities, including student reflections</p> <p>Micro-teaching</p> <p>School placement experiences</p> <p>ITPs</p>	<p>Written assignments (level 7)</p> <p>Essay</p> <p>Written report</p> <p>Controlled assessment</p> <p><i>Professional competencies (level 6)</i></p> <p>Oral presentation</p> <p>Optional module: Reflective Journal (level 7)</p>
<p><i>Promote good progress and outcomes by pupils (understand how pupils learn, with teaching building on pupils' prior knowledge and supporting pupils to reflect on and take responsibility for their own work).</i></p>	<p><i>Observation of and structured discussions with qualified teachers</i></p> <p>University-based lectures, seminars, (including external speakers; expert colleagues)</p> <p>University-based workshops (including delivery by expert colleagues).</p>	<p><i>School placement experiences</i></p> <p>Directed independent activities, including lesson planning and review, and student reflections</p> <p>Micro-teaching</p> <p>ITPs</p>	<p><i>Professional competencies (level 6)</i></p>

iv) Critical Analysis

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
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<p>Students should be able to:</p> <p><i>Interpret and deploy evidence from a critical stance.</i> Theoretical perspectives are used in the interpretation of evidence, with alternative interpretations and perspectives considered. Evidence is evaluated, with relevance and implications considered.</p>	<p>University-based lectures, seminars, (including expert colleagues)</p> <p>University-based workshops</p> <p><i>Observation of and structured discussions with qualified teachers</i></p>	<p>Engagement with lectures, seminars, workshops.</p> <p>Directed peer and independent activities, including directed reading and writing</p> <p>Micro-teaching</p> <p>School placement experiences</p>	<p>Written assignments (level 7)</p> <p>Essay</p> <p>Written report</p> <p>Controlled assessment</p> <p><i>Professional competencies (level 6)</i></p> <p>Oral presentation</p> <p>Optional module: Reflective Journal (level 7)</p>
<p>Students should be able to:</p> <p>Make and justify useful inferences as parts of cohesive lines of reasoning, with appropriate conclusions clearly communicated.</p>	<p>University-based lectures, seminars, (including external speakers; expert colleagues)</p> <p>University-based workshops (including delivery by expert colleagues).</p>	<p>Engagement with lectures, seminars, workshops.</p> <p>Directed peer and independent activities, including directed reading and writing</p> <p>Micro-teaching</p> <p>School placement experiences</p>	<p>Written assignments (level 7)</p> <p>Essay</p> <p>Written report</p> <p>Controlled assessment</p> <p><i>Professional competencies (level 6)</i></p> <p>Oral presentation</p> <p>Optional module: Reflective Journal (level 7)</p>

v) Presentation

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
<p>Students should be able to:</p> <p>Communicate complex issues effectively in a range of academic (including literature reviews,</p>	<p>University-based lectures, seminars, (including external speakers; expert colleagues)</p>	<p>Engagement with lectures, seminars, workshops.</p>	<p>Written assignments (level 7)</p> <p>Essay</p> <p>Written report</p>

academic presentations) and <i>professional formats (teaching practice)</i>	University-based workshops (including delivery by expert colleagues).  <i>Observation of and structured discussions with qualified teachers</i>	Directed peer and independent activities, including directed reading and writing  Micro-teaching  School placement experiences	Controlled assessment  <i>Professional competencies (level 6)</i>  Oral presentation  Optional module: Reflective Journal (level 7)
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vi) Appraisal of evidence

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Students should be able to:  Take a systematic approach seeking and identifying relevant and sufficient evidence (relevant, so it can contribute to developing knowledge, skills and understanding; sufficient, so appropriate interpretations and decisions can be made, <i>including considerations of alternatives, and understanding when further information is required</i> ). Teaching is complex and multifaceted and complete data is not available in educational contexts.	University-based lectures, seminars, (including external speakers; expert colleagues)  University-based workshops (including delivery by expert colleagues).  Observation of and structured discussions with qualified teachers	Engagement with lectures, seminars, workshops.  Directed peer and independent activities, including directed reading and writing  Micro-teaching  School placement experiences  ITPs	Written assignments (level 7)  Essay  Written report  Controlled assessment  <i>Professional competencies (level 6)</i>  Oral presentation  Optional module: Reflective Journal (level 7)
Students should be able to:  <i>Use sound professional judgments, with effective interpretation of classroom activities</i> so appropriate pedagogical decisions can be made.	University-based workshops (including delivery by expert colleagues).  <i>Observation of and structured discussions with qualified teachers</i>	Micro-teaching  School placement experiences  ITPs	<i>Professional competencies (level 6)</i>  Optional module: Oral presentation (level 7)

<i>Plan and teach well-structured lessons (effective use of lesson time to develop pupils' knowledge and understanding, with an engaging curriculum promoting intellectual curiosity)</i>	<i>Observation of and structured discussions with qualified teachers</i> University-based lectures, seminars, (including external speakers and expert colleagues) University-based workshops (including delivery by expert colleagues).	<i>School placement experiences</i> Directed independent activities, including lesson planning and review, and student reflections Micro-teaching ITPs	<i>Professional competencies (level 6)</i>

## b) Transferable Skills

### i) Research Skills

<b>Intended learning Outcome</b>	<b>Teaching methods</b>	<b>Learning Activities</b>	<b>Assessment Type</b>
Students should be able to: Analyse and evaluate how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in education.	University-based lectures, seminars, (including external speakers and expert colleagues) University-based workshops (including delivery by expert colleagues).	Engagement with lectures, seminars, workshops. Directed peer and independent activities, including directed reading and writing Micro-teaching ITPs	Written assignments (level 7) Essay Written report Controlled assessment <i>Professional competencies (level 6)</i> Oral presentation Optional module: Reflective Journal (level 7)
Students should be able to:	University-based lectures, seminars, (including external speakers; expert colleagues)	Engagements with lectures, seminars, workshops.	Written assignments (level 7) Essay

Evaluate methodologies and develop critiques of them, demonstrating a sufficient conceptual understanding	University-based workshops (including delivery by expert colleagues).	Directed peer and independent activities, including directed reading and writing  Micro-teaching	Written report  Controlled assessment <i>Professional competencies (level 6)</i>  Oral presentation  Optional module: Reflective Journal (level 7)
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ii) Communication skills

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Students should be able to:  Communicate clear and justified lines of reasoning in academic formats (literature review, essay, report, presentation, written responses to questions)	University-based lectures, seminars, (including external speakers and expert colleagues)  University-based workshops (including delivery by expert colleagues).	Engagement with lectures, seminars, workshops.  Directed peer and independent activities, including directed reading and writing	Written assignments (level 7)  Essay  Written report  Controlled assessment <i>Professional competencies (level 6)</i>  Oral presentation  Optional module: Reflective Journal (level 7)
Students should be able to:  <i>Communicate effectively in a range of professional contexts (schools/classrooms - pupils teaching; colleagues and peers; parents)</i>	University-based workshops (including delivery by expert colleagues).  <i>Observation of and structured discussions with qualified teachers</i>	Micro-teaching  School placement experiences  ITPs	<i>Professional competencies (level 6)</i>  Optional module: Oral presentation (level 7)

<p><i>Set high expectations which inspire, motivate and challenge pupils (establish a safe, stimulating and respectful environment, setting challenging goals for all pupils).</i></p>	<p>Observation of and structured discussions with qualified teachers</p> <p>University-based lectures, seminars, (including external speakers and expert colleagues)</p> <p>University-based workshops (including delivery by expert colleagues).</p>	<p><i>School placement experiences</i></p> <p>Directed independent activities, including lesson planning and review, and student reflections</p> <p>Micro-teaching</p> <p>ITPs</p>	<p><i>Professional competencies (level 6)</i></p>
<p><i>Manage behaviour effectively to ensure a good and safe learning environment (have high expectations, establish routines and manage classes effectively, maintaining good relationships with pupils)</i></p>	<p>Observation of and structured discussions with qualified teachers</p> <p>University-based lectures, seminars, (including external speakers and expert colleagues)</p> <p>University-based workshops (including delivery by expert colleagues).</p>	<p>Directed independent activities, including lesson planning and review, and student reflections</p> <p>Micro-teaching</p> <p>School placement experiences</p> <p>ITPs</p>	<p><i>Professional competencies (level 6)</i></p>

iii) Data Presentation

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
<p>Students should be able to:</p> <p><i>Use data found in school settings to communicate pupil progress effectively to stakeholders (teachers, pupils, parents)</i></p>	<p>University-based lectures, seminars, (including external speakers; expert colleagues)</p> <p>University-based workshops (including delivery by expert colleagues).</p>	<p>Engagement with lectures, seminars, workshops.</p> <p>Directed peer and independent activities, including directed reading and writing</p> <p>School placement experiences</p>	<p><i>Professional competencies (level 6)</i></p>

	<i>Observation of and structured discussions with qualified teachers</i>		
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iv) Information Technology

<b>Intended learning Outcome</b>	<b>Teaching methods</b>	<b>Learning Activities</b>	<b>Assessment Type</b>
Students should be able to: <i>Use technology to support planning, teaching and review of lessons.</i>	University-based workshops (including delivery by expert colleagues).  <i>Observation of and structured discussions with qualified teachers</i>	Directed peer and independent activities, including directed reading and writing  School placement experiences	<i>Professional competencies (level 6)</i>

v) Problem Solving

<b>Intended learning Outcome</b>	<b>Teaching methods</b>	<b>Learning Activities</b>	<b>Assessment Type</b>
Students should be able to: <i>Adapt teaching to respond to the strengths and needs of all pupils (aware of how to adapt teaching to match physical, social and intellectual development, how to identify and overcome barriers to learning, meeting the needs of all pupils including those with SEND)</i>	Observation of and structured discussions with qualified teachers  University-based lectures, seminars, (including external speakers; expert colleagues)  University-based workshops (including delivery by expert colleagues).	School placement experiences  Directed independent activities, including lesson planning and review, and student reflections  Micro-teaching	<i>Professional competencies (level 6)</i>

vi) Working relationships

<b>Intended learning Outcome</b>	<b>Teaching methods</b>	<b>Learning Activities</b>	<b>Assessment Type</b>
<i>Students should be able to:</i>	Observation of and structured discussions with qualified teachers	<i>School placement experiences</i>	<i>Professional competencies (level 6)</i>

<i>Fulfil wider professional responsibilities (establish professional relationships with colleagues, seeking and acting on advice, communicate effectively with parents and contribute to wider school life)</i>	University-based lectures, seminars, (including external speakers; expert colleagues)  University-based workshops (including delivery by expert colleagues).	Directed independent activities, including lesson planning and review, and student reflections  Micro-teaching	
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vii) Managing learning

<b>Intended learning Outcome</b>	<b>Teaching methods</b>	<b>Learning Activities</b>	<b>Assessment Type</b>
Students should be able to:  Adopt ways of working that will allow them to continue to advance their knowledge and understanding, from both an academic and <i>professional perspective that will support their transition to ECT.</i>	Observation of and structured discussions with qualified teachers  University-based lectures, seminars, (including external speakers; expert colleagues)  University-based workshops (including delivery by expert colleagues).	<i>School placement experiences</i>  Directed independent activities, including lesson planning and review, and student reflections  Micro-teaching	Written assignments (level 7)  Essay  Written report  Controlled assessment  <i>Professional competencies (level 6)</i>  Oral presentation  Optional module: Reflective Journal (level 7)

viii) Career Management

<b>Intended learning Outcome</b>	<b>Teaching methods</b>	<b>Learning Activities</b>	<b>Assessment Type</b>
Students should be able to:  Enter the teaching profession with a teaching qualification.	Observation of and structured discussions with qualified teachers  University-based lectures, seminars, (including external speakers; expert colleagues)	School placement experiences  Directed independent activities, including lesson planning and review, and student reflections  Micro-teaching	Written assignments (level 7)  Essay  Written report  Controlled assessment  <i>Professional competencies (level 6)</i>

	University-based workshops (including delivery by expert colleagues).		Oral presentation Optional module: Reflective Journal (level 7)
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### 10. Progression points

This programme follows the standard Scheme of Progression set out in [Senate Regulations](#) – see the version of *Senate Regulation 6 governing postgraduate programmes* relevant to the year of entry.

In cases where a student has failed to meet a requirement to progress, he or she will be required to withdraw from the course.

The following progression points will apply:

- 1) Following completion of ED7420, a Board of Examiners will be convened.

If in ED7420 a mark of 50% or above is achieved (pass at level 7) the student will progress onto ED7421

If in ED7420 a mark below 50% is achieved (fail at level 7) the student will be given the opportunity to re-sit (under the postgraduate mark scheme and ED7420 module specification).

If in ED7420 a mark 40-49% is achieved (fail at level 7, pass at level 6) the student can choose not to re-sit and would progress onto ED3421 completing the taught modules at level 6 (see exit awards).

Re-sits of ED7420

If in a re-sit of ED7420 a mark of 50% or above is achieved (pass at level 7) the student will progress onto ED7421

If in a re-sit of ED7420 a mark 40-49% is achieved (fail at level 7, pass at level 6) the student would progress onto ED3421 completing the taught modules at level 6 (see exit awards).

If in a re-sit of ED7420 a mark below 40% is achieved the student would be terminated from the course.

- 2) Following completion of ED7421/ED3421, a Board of Examiners will be convened.

If in ED7421 a mark below 50% is achieved (fail at level 7) the student will be given the opportunity to re-sit (under the postgraduate mark scheme and ED7421 module specification).

If in ED7421 a mark 40-49% is achieved (fail at level 7, pass at level 6) the student can choose not to re-sit, completing the taught modules at level 6 (see exit awards).

Re-sits of ED7421

If in a re-sit of ED7420 a mark 40-49% is achieved (fail at level 7, pass at level 6) the student would complete the taught modules at level 6 (see exit awards).

If in a re-sit of ED7420 a mark below 40% is achieved the student would not be eligible for award and would be terminated from the course.

ED3421

If students have passed ED7420 at level 6, after a board of examiners, the students would move onto the level 6 route for the second academic assignment (taught module) and would submit under the undergraduate mark scheme and the level 6 module specification (see exit awards).

If in ED3421 a mark below 40% was achieved (fail at level 6) the student will be given the opportunity to re-sit

If in a re-sit of ED3421 a mark below 40% was achieved (fail at level 6) the student would not be eligible for award and would be terminated from the course.

- 3) Where a candidate is assessed as not passing ED3100 (i.e. they have not met Teachers' Standards (for trainees) the Board of Examiners may decide to grant either:

- The extension of the assessment period within the same academic year, if it is possible to extend/continue with a school placement, or;
- The offer of an eight-week re-sit placement the following academic year (if suitable school placement can be secured) or;
- Fail without the offer of a re-sit (with the termination of any school placements if placements are ongoing).

**a) Course transfers**

n/a

**11. Criteria for award and classification**

This programme follows the standard scheme of postgraduate award and classification set out in Senate Regulations – see the version of *Senate Regulation governing postgraduate programmes* relevant to the year of entry.

Due to the professional nature of the programme, it is not practice to award pass, merit and distinction awards. Instead, the following awards apply.

<b>Award</b>	<b>Level</b>	<b>Detail</b>
Postgraduate Certificate in Education (with recommendation for QTS)	Level 7	Student achieves level 7 in the following modules: ED7420, ED7421 (60 level 7 credits are awarded) and passes ED3100  [If ED7435 is passed it is an addition 30 level 7 credits, but does not contribute to the PGCE award]
<b>Exit Award</b>	<b>Level</b>	<b>Detail</b>
Postgraduate Certificate in Educational Studies	Level 7	Student achieves level 7 in the following modules: ED7420, ED7421 but does not pass ED3100 and is therefore <b>not</b> awarded QTS  [If ED7435 is passed it is an addition 30 level 7 credits, but does not contribute to the award]
Professional Graduate Certificate in Education (with recommendation for QTS)	Level 6	Student achieves level 6 in the following modules ED7420 & ED3421 (or level 6 in one module level 7 in the other) and passes ED3100  [ED7435 is only available for those students passing core modules at level 7]

**12. Special features**

This is a professional programme, governed by the requirements of the DfE and subject to frequent change, sometimes at short notice. The programme is also subject to inspection by Ofsted. These special features are represented principally in Module (level 6) ED3100, but completion of Modules ED3421 or ED7420, ED7421 at least at level 6 is required.

It is expected that all students will attempt level 7 Module ED7420 above.

In addition to modules ED7420/7421, an additional module is offered to recognise and enhance the quality of the students' engagement in reflective practice (Module ED7435).

This is an optional 30 credit level 7 module, available to students who successfully complete ED7420 UA1: Learning and Pedagogy and ED7421 UA2: Understanding Classroom Practice at level 7. This provided the students an opportunity to formalise and receive recognition for the reflective practice that students engage with throughout the course. (e.g. There are structured and scaffolded reflective practice tasks undertaken whilst on school placements to support students to link theoretical perspectives to their practice). This is not part of the PGCE award but can be ACPL into the M.Ed. at the University of Leicester if undertaken within 5 years.

The Department for Education specify the minimum of days of training in schools that are planned into the programme (the students do not have to complete all 120 days). For 2025-26 the minimum 24 weeks (120 days) of teaching practice; with the addition of a minimum of 20 ITP days (within school and the university) are required by this programme.

ED3100 Professional School Experience. This module requires the demonstration of teaching skills to a sufficient level against the DfE Teachers' Standards (DfE, 2012).

The programme is offered in partnership with local school groups using a framework laid down by the Department for Education. This programme format is characterised by school-based training in partnership with academic development through involvement of higher education institutions. The majority of the taught elements of the programme are delivered at the University by tutors, with support from outside experts including school-based colleagues.

### **13. Indications of programme quality**

- External Examiner reports
- Reaccreditation by DfE for 2024
- Evaluation processes (feedback from students, partner schools, tutor; student evaluation surveys; quality assurance/moderation visits to schools, peer observation of teaching/marking, consultation meetings with mentors/cotutors; course evaluation reports and Annual Development Reviews)
- Partnership Management Group
- OfSTED reports

The details of the External Examiner(s) for this programme and the most recent External Examiners' reports for this programme can be found at [exampapers@Leicester](mailto:exampapers@Leicester) [log-in required].

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### Appendix 1: Programme structure (programme regulations)

The University regularly reviews its programmes and modules to ensure that they reflect the current status of the discipline and offer the best learning experience to students. On occasion, it may be necessary to alter particular aspects of a course or module.

Postgraduate Certificate of Education (PGCE)

**Level 7/Year Final    Delivery Year 2026/27    Intake Month September    Mode of Study Full Time Structure**

#### Credit breakdown

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2
Core (level 7)	n/a	30 credits	30 credits
Core (level 6)	60 credits	n/a	n/a
Optional	30 credits	n/a	n/a

120 credits in total

#### Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 1	ED7420	Critical Reflections on Classroom Practice	30 credits
Semester 2	ED7421	Small-Scale Classroom Research Project	30 credits
Year long	ED3100	Professional School Experience: Meeting the Teachers' Standards	60 credits

#### Notes

ED3100 is the level 6 module related to professional teaching competences; most of the student workload and assessment is related to school placements.

### Option modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Year long	ED7435	Reflective Practice in Education (Primary PGCE)	30 credits

### Notes

### Appendix 2: Module specifications

See postgraduate [module specification database](#) (Note - modules are organized by year of delivery) [login-required]