



**Maynooth
University**

National University
of Ireland Maynooth



School Placement 2020/2021

THANK YOU



Dear principal,
School placement is a central component of initial teacher education and the time our student teachers spend in school is vital to their preparation for a career in teaching. We would like to thank you, your teachers and your school community for facilitating and supporting our student teachers on placement. We also hope that the process of accommodating students in your school is enriching for your teachers and pupils.

This brochure provides an overview of the school placement arrangements. We hope that we will have an opportunity to partner with you around school placement in 2020 - 2021.

Aislinn O'Donnell

Professor Aislinn O'Donnell
Maynooth University Department of Education

PROFESSIONAL MASTER OF EDUCATION

The Professional Master of Education (PME) course is a two-year full-time programme leading to the award of a Level 9 Professional Master's degree. The PME is a consecutive programme that builds on subject content knowledge developed during a student's undergraduate degree and is designed to prepare high quality teachers for today's post-primary schools.

BSC SCIENCE, COMPUTER SCIENCE & MATHEMATICS, OR MATHEMATICS (WITH EDUCATION)

These degrees are concurrent initial teacher education programmes.

BSc Science with Education student teachers undertake their degree in and can teach two of the following subjects to Leaving Certificate level – Mathematics, Biology, Chemistry and Physics (in addition to Junior Science).

BSc Computer Science and Mathematics with Education students can teach Mathematics and Computer Science to Leaving Certificate level.

BSc Mathematics with Education students can teach Mathematics and Applied Mathematics to Leaving Certificate level.

PME YEAR 1

School Placement Days	Thursday & Friday
Semester 1	4 classes per week (40 mins) or 3 classes per week (1 hour)
Block - 3 Weeks	10 classes per week (40 mins) or 8 classes per week (1 hour)
Semester 2	8 classes per week (40 mins) or 6 classes per week (1 hour)

Team teaching / Observation can make up to **20%** of the required classes

40 Minute Classes	
No. of Classes	20%
4	1
8	2
10	2

1 Hour Classes	
No. of Classes	20%
3	1
6	2
8	2

PME YEAR 2

School Placement Days	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday
Semester 1	8 classes per week (40 mins) or 6 classes per week (1 hour)
Semester 2	10 classes per week (40 mins) or 8 classes per week (1 hour)

“Any additional observational opportunities throughout the school day are of great advantage to your school placement.”

BSC SCIENCE/COMPUTER SCIENCE & MATHS/ MATHEMATICS WITH EDUCATION

	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
School Placement Days	Thursday	Tuesday	Monday
Dates	February - May	October - May	September - December
Activity	<p>Observations in Maths/ Computer Science/ Science</p> <p>Assisting and team teaching where possible</p>	<p>3 classes per week (40 mins) or 2 classes per week (1 hour)</p> <p>*excluding January when students have university exams</p>	<p>2 week block in Sept 10 classes per week (40 mins) or 8 classes per week (1 hour)</p> <p>Mondays: 4 classes per week (40 mins) or 3 classes per week (1 hour)</p>





BENEFITS OF FACILITATING A SCHOOL PLACEMENT

As well as teaching/team teaching assigned classes each week, student teachers are present in schools throughout placement days. They are encouraged to become fully involved in the life of the school and to support the wider work of the school. Other activities that student teachers may be able to provide assistance with include:

- Acting as team teachers under the direction of an experienced teacher
- Assisting with one-to-one tuition and small group teaching
- Supporting the school's co-curricular and extracurricular activity programme
- Providing assistance with school-based subject clubs
- Mentoring students for competitions and activities (e.g. Young Scientist, Young Social Innovators, Debating Teams, Young Economist, Development Education, SciFest)
- Assisting the school with gathering and analysing data for school self-evaluation as part of research projects
- BSc (Science) students can work as lab assistants to support teachers

Partner schools will also be invited to participate in a range of educational events and CPD opportunities organised by the Maynooth University Department of Education on an ongoing basis.



ARRANGING SCHOOL PLACEMENTS

PME student teachers and Year 4 BScEd student teachers apply directly to schools for a school placement using a cover letter and CV. Placements are organised for Year 2 and Year 3 BSc students and requests for such placements will be made directly to schools by the University.

If you are interested in facilitating a student teacher on placement in 2020-21 or would like any additional information, please contact the School Placement Officer, Fiona Casey, via the channels provided below. If you have particular subjects or a subject combination that you would like to consider, we will do our best to accommodate this for you.

MORE INFORMATION?



SCHOOL.PLACEMENT@MU.IE



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