

# MAYNOOTH

## UNIVERSITY



Professional Master of Education  
School Placement Booklet  
2025/2026

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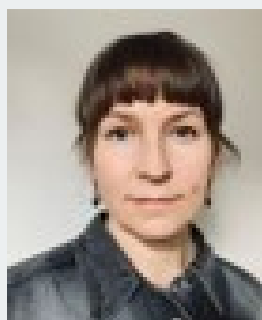


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# Thank You

We would like to thank you, your teachers and your school community for facilitating and supporting our student teachers on their school placement. It 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 acknowledge all your hard work that goes into ensuring our student teachers have an enriching and positive formative school placement experience. 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 2025-2026.



Dr. Maija Salokangas  
Head of Department  
Department of Education  
Maynooth University





# **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.



ANY ADDITIONAL OBSERVATIONAL  
OPPORTUNITIES THROUGHOUT THE  
SCHOOL DAY ARE OF GREAT ADVANTAGE  
TO THE PLACEMENT EXPERIENCE.

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# PME YEAR 1

## SCHOOL PLACEMENT DAYS:

THURSDAY & FRIDAY

THROUGHOUT SCHOOL YEAR



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## SEMESTER 1

4 classes per week

1 of these classes can be made up of  
team teaching/observation/other

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## BLOCK PLACEMENT (JANUARY)

10 classes per week

2 of these classes can be made up of  
team teaching/observation/other

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## SEMESTER 2

8 classes per week

2 of these classes can be made up of  
team teaching/observation/other





# **PME YEAR 1**

## **SCHOOL PLACEMENT DAYS:**

**THURSDAY & FRIDAY**

**THROUGHOUT SCHOOL YEAR**

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## **SEMESTER 1**

**3 classes per week**

**1 of these classes can be made up of  
team teaching/observation/other**

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## **BLOCK PLACEMENT (JANUARY)**

**8 classes per week**

**2 of these classes can be made up of  
team teaching/observation/other**

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## **SEMESTER 2**

**6 classes per week**

**2 of these classes can be made up of  
team teaching/observation/other**





# **PME YEAR 2**

## **SCHOOL PLACEMENT DAYS:**

**MONDAY, TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY  
THROUGHOUT SCHOOL YEAR**

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## **SEMESTER 1**

**8 classes per week**

**2 of these classes can be made up of  
team teaching/observation/other**

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## **SEMESTER 2**

**10 classes per week**

**2 of these classes can be made up of  
team teaching/observation/other**



# PME YEAR 2



## SCHOOL PLACEMENT DAYS:

MONDAY, TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY  
THROUGHOUT SCHOOL YEAR

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### SEMESTER 1

6 classes per week

2 of these classes can be made up of  
team teaching/observation/other

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### SEMESTER 2

8 classes per week

2 of these classes can be made up of  
team teaching/observation/other



# BENEFITS OF FACILITATING A SCHOOL PLACEMENT

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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



# ARRANGING SCHOOL PLACEMENTS

PME student teachers apply directly to schools for a school placement using a cover letter and CV. If you are interested in facilitating a student teacher on placement in 2025-26 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**  
**01 47 47 203**