

**Ollscoil Mhá Nuad  
Maynooth University**



**Maynooth  
University**

National University  
of Ireland Maynooth



# Professional Master of Education

## Overview

The Professional Master of Education (PME) is a two-year Level 9 full-time programme (120 credits) designed to qualify graduates to teach at post-primary level in Ireland, across the EU and in other English-speaking countries. The PME programme enables students to develop the classroom skills, perceptive understanding and judgment needed to become a confident and critically reflective educator. Accredited by the Teaching Council of Ireland, the PME programme offers students a rich, research-informed educational experience grounded in a commitment to an ethical-relational concept of education.

The PME programme in Maynooth is designed to support group processes, collaborative and creative approaches to teaching, learning and assessment. Our aim is to build positive relationships and to ensure that student teachers have a comprehensive understanding of the theory, practice and relevant policy landscape in Irish education. It provides student teachers with multiple ways to develop skills in teaching, supporting them to become creative, inclusive, and culturally aware professionals who can confidently lead the learning experience of their own students in thoughtful ways, and to value and contribute to collegiality with colleagues.

### How is the course structured?

The PME is a full-time Masters programme offering an on-campus student experience. PME Year 1 comprises of three days (Mon-Wed) in Maynooth University and two full days (Thurs&Fri) on school placement throughout the school year, and includes a three-week block placement (January). The PME 1 lecture timetable comprises full mornings both semesters with afternoon sessions in the relevant subject methodologies.

PME Year 2 involves three days on school placement (Mon-Wed) and two days (Thurs&Fri) on campus. Students must secure their own school placement in two different schools between Year 1 and Year 2. Schools cannot be located any further than 160 kilometres from Maynooth University. The Education Department School Placement Office supports successful applicants in the process of contacting schools and navigating the documentation and procedures for Garda Vetting.

### Who can apply?

The programme is open to all graduates holding a Level 8 qualification that meets the criteria for one or more subjects taught at second level as set out by the Teaching Council. The minimum requirement is a 2:2 grade in a Level 8 qualification or equivalent in a relevant discipline that meets the Teaching Council of Ireland requirements.

Find more details on the MU PME website: <https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/study-maynooth/postgraduate-studies/courses/professional-master-education-secondary>

See also the Teaching Council's Curricular Subject Requirements: <https://bit.ly/3HPz9mr>

### What teaching subjects can I specialise in on the PME in Maynooth?

The list of subjects on the PME in MU are:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Accounting</li><li>• Agricultural Science</li><li>• Biology</li><li>• Business/Business Studies</li><li>• Chemistry</li><li>• Computer Science</li><li>• Economics</li><li>• English</li><li>• French</li><li>• Gaeilge</li><li>• Geography</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• German</li><li>• History</li><li>• Italian</li><li>• Mandarin Chinese</li><li>• Mathematics</li><li>• Applied Mathematics</li><li>• Music</li><li>• Physics</li><li>• Politics and Society (with CSPE)</li><li>• Religious Education</li><li>• Social Personal and Health Education (SPHE)</li><li>• Spanish</li></ul> |
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## How can I find out more?



**Email:** [education.department@mu.ie](mailto:education.department@mu.ie)



**Webpage:** [maynoothuniversity.ie/education/our-courses](https://maynoothuniversity.ie/education/our-courses)



**Find us on X:** @MU\_Education



**Find us on Bluesky:** @maynootheducation.bsky.social