AN ROINN OIDEACHAIS AGUS SCILEANNA

RIACHTANAIS IONTRÁLA DO CHÚRSAÍ OIDEACHAIS MAR MHÚINTEOIR BUNSCOILE 2017

COMÓRTAS CAO

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND SKILLS

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS FOR INITIAL TEACHER EDUCATION COURSES FOR PRIMARY TEACHERS 2017

CAO COMPETITION
1. **Application for admission to a Bachelor of Education Programme**

A four year full-time course leading to a Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.) degree is held in each of the following Higher Education Institutions of Education for primary teachers:

- Marino Institute of Education, Griffith Avenue, Dublin 9
- Mary Immaculate College, South Circular Road, Limerick
- DCU Institute of Education, DCU St Patrick’s Campus, Drumcondra, Dublin 9
- Froebel Department of Primary and Early Childhood Education, NUI Maynooth.

(Contact details for the Higher Education Institutions are set out at Appendix 1).

Persons who successfully complete the course may be registered by the Teaching Council under Route 1: Primary.

Applications are made through the Central Applications Office (CAO). Applicants must be at least 16 years of age by 15 January of the year in which the application is made (15 January 2017 for entry in autumn 2017).

2. **Minimum Academic Requirements 2017– Leaving Certificate Examination:**

**General**

- Grade H5 on a Higher Level paper in not less than three subjects
- Grade O6/H7 in three other subjects in accordance with the Rules and Programme for Secondary Schools

**Essential Subjects**
The grades and % marks in the 1992-2016 grading scheme and the new 2017 scheme are set out at Appendix 3.

The best six subjects in a single sitting of the Leaving Certificate Examination will be counted for points purposes in accordance with CAO procedures. While the minimum grades in the subjects Irish, English and Mathematics specified above need not be obtained at the same sitting of the Leaving Certificate examination, applicants should note the requirement to achieve a minimum of Grade H5 on three Higher Level papers and Grade O6/H7 in three other subjects in a single sitting of the Leaving Certificate.

**GCSE and GCE, AS Level and A Level Examinations** – the minimum requirements are set out in Appendix 2.

3. **CAO Selection Procedure**

Grades obtained in the Leaving Certificate or GCE Examinations will be converted in accordance with the points scale of the appropriate College. Where two or more applicants obtain the same points total, the CAO will apply the random selection procedure.

Successful applicants will be notified by the CAO, in accordance with its normal procedures. Initial offers of places will be included in the CAO "first round" offers. Depending on the response, further offers may be made in subsequent rounds.

Successful applicants who accept places are required to enter the Higher Education Institutions in autumn (actual dates available from the individual Institutions). In special
circumstances, at the discretion of the Institution authorities, the date of entry may be deferred for a limited period.

4. Additional Information

Proficiency in spoken Irish:

1. Gaeltacht Course – Attendance and Cost: All students of primary initial teacher education on the Bachelor of Education programme in Colleges of Education are required to attend a residential course in the Gaeltacht. It should be noted that this is a compulsory part of the course. From the start of the 2012/13 academic year, the cost of this compulsory course will no longer be met by the Department of Education & Skills.

2. Oral Irish Test: In addition, applicants should note that students will be subject to an oral Irish test at the end of their first year of initial teacher education, and must pass this test in order to continue to the second year of the course. Students who fail this oral Irish test may, at the discretion of the Institution, be allowed to repeat the test.

Student Grants: A new online only grant application system is in place. Applications are to be made online through the single awarding authority, Student Universal Support Ireland (SUSI), at www.studentfinance.ie.

Scholarships: Easter Week Commemoration Scholarships, Gaeltacht University Scholarships and Irish Language Third Level Scholarships will be replaced with a new single scheme of bursaries based on merit. Details of the new scheme are available from Higher Education - Equity of Access Unit, Department of Education & Skills, Tullamore, Co. Offaly (Telephone: 057 932 5317).

Fitness to Practise:

1. Garda Vetting: Before a Higher Education Institution can complete a student registration; the Higher Education Institution requires that all incoming teacher education students undergo a process of Garda vetting in order to establish whether they have any convictions or criminal charges pending. Where this process confirms the existence of such, the matter is referred to a Vetting Committee within the Higher Education Institution which decides whether the student
can continue with his/her programme of study.

2. Medical Requirements: The Higher Education Institutions require that all incoming teacher education students complete a medical information form, indicating whether they have any significant ongoing illnesses or disabilities which might adversely impact their capacity to meet the requirements of the course, including School Placement. Entrants who declare health conditions, disabilities or psychological conditions will be assessed on an individual basis to evaluate whether, with reasonable accommodations, they would have the ability to undertake the demands of the programme. Individuals will not be excluded on the grounds that they possess a particular condition or disability if it is deemed likely that it would be possible for that person to fulfil the requirements of the course with reasonable accommodation(s). The Institutions will advise students as to the procedure to be followed in this regard.

**Gaeltacht Applicants**: Up to ten per cent of places on the Bachelor of Education programme may be reserved for applicants from the Gaeltacht, i.e. applicants must reside in the officially designated Gaeltacht and must use Irish as the normal language of home.
Appendix 1
Higher Education Institutions – Contact Details

Marino Institute of Education
Griffith Avenue
Dublin 9
Telephone: (01) 805 7700
Email: admissions@mie.ie
Website: www.mie.ie

Froebel Department of Primary and Early Childhood Education
NUI Maynooth
Maynooth
Co Kildare
Telephone: (01) 708 3822
Email: admissions@nuim.ie
Website: www.nuim.ie

Mary Immaculate College
South Circular Road
Limerick
Telephone: (061) 204 300
Email: admissions@mic.ul.ie
Website: www.mic.ul.ie

DCU Institute of Education
DCU St. Patrick’s Campus,
Drumcondra,
Dublin 9.
Telephone: (01) 884 2096
Email: courseinfo@dcu.ie
Website: www.dcu.ie
Appendix 2

Minimum Qualifications in GCSE and GCE AS and A Level Examinations for admission to the Bachelor of Education Degree Course

General

- Six subjects must be presented, at least three subjects at GCE A Level and the remaining subjects at GCE AS or GCSE level. The six subjects must include Irish, English and Mathematics.

- A subject may be counted from only one of the examinations, GCSE, GCE AS Level or GCE A Level.

- Only subjects taken at one sitting of a particular examination, GCSE, GCE AS Level or GCE A Level, will be accepted. Examinations taken in the same academic year are regarded as the same sitting.

Specific Requirements in Irish, English & Mathematics

- Grade C at GCE A level in at least three subjects, including Irish

- Grade C at GCSE Level in both English and English Literature, or Grade B at GCSE Level in either

- Grade D at GCSE Level in Additional Mathematics or Grade C at GCSE Level in Mathematics

- Grade C in one other subject at GCSE level

Applicants must satisfy the matriculation requirements of the University to which the College of Education is affiliated.
Appendix 3
Leaving Cert Grading Schemes (1992-2016 Scheme and New Scheme 2017)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1992 – 2016 Scheme</th>
<th>% Awarded</th>
<th>New Scheme 2017 onwards</th>
<th>% Awarded</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A1</td>
<td>90-100</td>
<td>H1 / O1</td>
<td>90-100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A2</td>
<td>85&lt;90</td>
<td>H2 / O2</td>
<td>80&lt;90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B1</td>
<td>80&lt;85</td>
<td>H3 / O3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B2</td>
<td>75&lt;80</td>
<td>H4 / O4</td>
<td>60&lt;70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B3</td>
<td>70&lt;75</td>
<td>H5 / O5</td>
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