

# PROSPECTUS

# 2020



# WHY CHOOSE STRANMILLIS?

98% STUDENT

our student retention is one

FOR STUDENT SATISFACTION

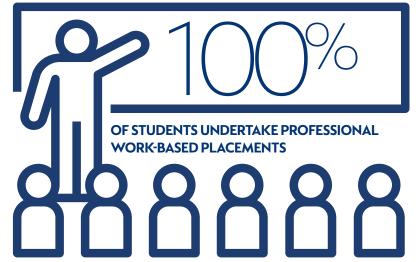
OVERALL HESA UNEMPLOYMENT



GLOBAL CAMPUS

with students from partner universities 30 worldwide







High Quality Research and Scholarship



QAA assessment reaffirmed the quality of our teaching and learning





# 72%

**RESEARCH ACTIVITY** 

**INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNISED** 

1922

#### **LONG ESTABLISHED**

long established, globally recognised leader in education

# STRAN HALLS

unique catered accommodation and carefree student living

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#### Relax

Walk through the gates of the College and you can easily forget you are so close to the heart of the city. Set in 18 hectares of woodland, the campus is a peaceful haven that is a designated conservation area and has been awarded the prestigious EcoCampus status. Enjoy a stroll, relax in your favourite secluded area or eat alfresco in the fabulous surroundings. Every season, the grounds display a particular beauty.



#### **Unwind**

When it's time for some downtime, there are plenty of shared spaces on campus. Betty's Coffee Shop, Scholars Bar, Cybertub, Chatz and the Students' Union are lively social hubs where you can meet and socialise with friends. For something more active, hit the gym, sports hall or dance studio.



# Study

We are continually investing in modern teaching and learning spaces incorporating the latest technologies. You can choose from a number of study areas equipped with everything you need for formal, group and independent study: the library, with a variety of learning zones and access to electronic resources; a Student Resource Centre; and IT suites ideal for research and assignments.

#### **Express**

If you have a passion for art, design, music or drama, the College is able to offer you the specialist resources, facilities and opportunities to express yourself and further develop your talents. Facilities include a 260 seat Drama Theatre, a large Music Recital room, four music studios and nine individual practice rooms for individual and group learning plus dedicated studios for ceramics, textiles, art and design.







#### Rooms

Stran Halls has 469 modern, fully furnished, single occupancy, study bedrooms with a choice of shared or ensuite bathrooms and access to communal kitchen facilities. If you and your friends want bedrooms close to each other, we'll arrange it!

#### Food

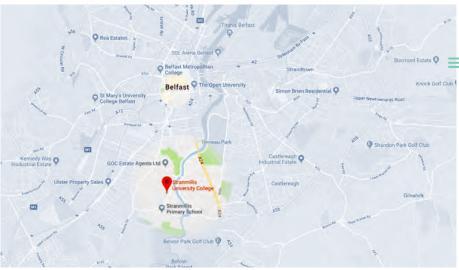
Being catered, we take the hassle out of cooking, leaving you more time for socialising and studying. Catering includes a cooked breakfast and 3-course evening meal, saving you trips to the supermarket and time spent cooking and washing up. Catering is provided seven days a week in 'Chatz' restaurant.



#### **Carefree Living**

We also take the hassle out of cleaning! Communal areas such as showers are cleaned daily and bed linen is washed and laundered weekly. We take care of all utilities including wi-fi. You have access to a great range of social and recreational facilities including Scholars Bar, laundrette, a gym and snooker and games rooms. Halls residents also benefit from two free evening short courses to learn a new language or skill or improve your fitness and wellbeing.





#### **■Location**

Our six halls of residence are located on campus providing safe, secure student accommodation, where you can almost fall out of bed and into class. Set in stunning grounds, the halls are a short stroll from the student quarter and within easy walking distance of everything Belfast has to offer.

# **Your**Belfast

Voted the best place to visit in 2018 by Lonely Planet, and one of the least expensive cities in the UK to live in, Belfast is the perfect place to study. With the campus just 1.5 miles from the city centre, everything Belfast has to offer is on your doorstep.

#### Lively

Compact, vibrant and dynamic, Belfast is lauded by Lonely Planet for its energy, lively atmosphere and its 'dynamic young population that keeps the city on trend.'



#### Affordable

Belfast has the lowest cost of living in the UK (Mercer) and the lowest student rent of any city in the UK (NatWest Student Living Index).

#### **Buzzing**

Entertainment, food, music, nightlife. From the cobblestone streets of the Cathedral Quarter to the waterfront and entertainment area of the Titanic Quarter; the student heartbeat of Queen's Quarter to the clubs, pubs and shopping of the city centre, Belfast has it all and more.



# S) ECAP

## Welcoming

Famed for its humour and warm welcome, Belfast is a city that welcomes you with open arms and has been ranked as the second safest city in the world.

#### Cultured

A city full of heritage, culture and craic, Belfast is now a tourist hotspot and it has been ranked the number one place to visit by Lonely Planet and Best UK City by The Guardian and The Observer.



Supportin **You** 

We recognise that no two students are the same, so our Student Support team are on hand to offer personalised support. Many students will never need this provision, but if you do, we are here to help. Whether it's support with personal or health concerns, studies or financial guidance – we provide a listening ear.



#### **Student Support Services**

Our friendly, experienced team offer a broad range of health, wellbeing, academic and personal support services including:

- Disability Support
- Communication Support Centre
- Counselling and Wellbeing Services
- Occupational Health and referral to specialised support
- Student finance guidance and support, including money matters, bursaries and scholarships

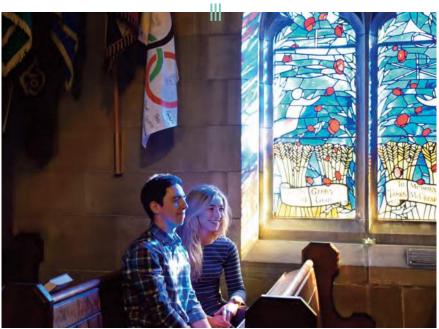


#### Peer Mentoring

All freshers are allocated a peer mentor, who is a current student on a similar degree programme, to support and help you settle into uni life.
Who better to relate to than a fellow student?

#### Chaplaincy

We have a strong ethos of diversity and mutual understanding and welcome students from a wide variety of backgrounds. Our chaplains support students across many faiths and denominations.



# Communications Skills Centre

The Centre provides individual and group tuition to help students develop writing and communication skills. The Centre is staffed by trained peer tutors.



# Students with Disabilities

Our Disability Support Service offers guidance and signposting to relevant internal and external support and resources for students with a disability or specific learning difficulty.





Stranmillis has a strong Students' Union, led by students for students. The Union plays an active and vital role in the life of the College, giving you a voice on what matters to you; working on your behalf to ensure the highest standards of teaching, learning and professional development are delivered; and ensuring you make the most of your skills and talents through an extensive programme of extra-curricular activities.





#### ≡ Thαt's Entertαinment

The Union is incredibly important to the social life of the College, organising a diverse programme of events and activities from Freshers' Week to Stran Does Strictly, Acoustic and Dessert nights in Scholars Bar to the Back to School Bop and Annual Ball.



#### Your Voice

for overall Student Survey ratings for overall Student Satisfaction (87%) and Student Voice (74%) place Stranmillis as the number one higher education institution in Northern Ireland and one of the top performers in the UK.



#### **SU Charity**

Throughout the year, the Students' Union organises a host of events where you can showcase your hidden talents to raise funds for the SU's charity partner, Fields of Life, and, at the same time, create memories you will cherish.



#### ■ Stage to Sportsfield

Whether you are interested in sport (Kings Scholars RFC, GAA, Football, Hockey), music, drama or the Christian Union, there is a wide range of clubs, societies and activities to get involved with, including the music society and the legendary Stran Panto!

# What our **Students Say...**

## Have you heard?

#### **Chris Pollock**

BSc HPAS

#### Most enjoyable thing about your course

Great opportunities to study abroad and broaden your horizons.

#### **Best thing about campus**

Stran is small but it's unique in every way. It's like a big family!

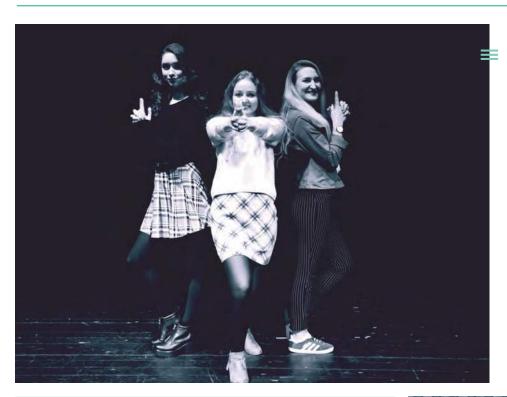
#### Tell us about the tutors

So down to earth. I can honestly ask them anything and their banter is great..... which is always a good thing.

#### **Favourite place on campus**

The Drama Theatre – so many happy memories!





#### Lauren Moffett, Rachel McKay and Jillian Blair

**BEd Primary** 

#### The best thing about Stran

We love the Drama Theatre because it is the place where we have the most fun and have made the most memories

#### **Best thing about the tutors**

They are approachable and not only provide us with valuable insights and knowledge for teaching in the Primary classroom, but they also provide us with top quality banter!

#### **Best thing about living in Halls**

Living with your pals! You always have a study buddy nearby. It is catered, so you don't need to worry about burning the flat down!

#### Alex Coulter and Rebecca Murphy

#### BEd Primary

#### The best thing about Stran

The social life at Stranmillis is fantastic. Neither of us knew anyone at the university before we came, yet we quickly made friends with a few other girls. How did we meet them? Firstly, Stranmillis incorporates a lot of group work into their tasks making it easier to talk to unknown people.

## Tell us about activities you've been involved with

There are loads of Students' Union events that are so much fun to

attend, such as, the Back to School Bop, Stran does Strictly, the UV Party and our very own Take Me Out. Freshers' week is a prime time to meet people as everyone is in the same boat and trying to socialise as much as possible.

#### **Best place on campus**

There are also tons of places on campus to hang out, such as, Betty's coffee shop, Chatz restaurant and Scholars Bar, as well as great cafes, restaurants, clubs and bars in the local vicinity.





#### Zara McNally

**BA ECS** 

#### **Best thing about campus**

Students' Union, Panto, volunteering and Christian Union!

#### The best thing about Stran

Everything is so close by and the campus is so secure with 24 hour security.

## Three words that describe Stranmillis Like a family.



#### Rebeckah Wilson

**BEd Post Primary** 

#### Most enjoyable part of your course

Easy to get to know people. Green and peaceful.

#### Tell us about extra-curricular activities you are involved in

International, Panto, Stran Does Strictly, Charity Week and Christian Union.



Robert Hunter
BEd Post-Primary
The best thing about Stran
The family feel and genuine sense of community and especially the annual

**Best thing about campus**Being so close to everything! The grounds are so beautiful and it's a nice, compact campus with all the facilities

Panto!

vou need.



#### Marc Cowan

# BEd Primary Favourite place on campus

Betty's Coffee Shop and Scholars Bar.

## Three words that describe Stranmillis

Community, support and enjoyment.



#### Katie Wilson

BEd Primary
Most enjoyable part of
your course

You get plenty of opportunity to work with others and spend time out in primary schools. It's very practical!



#### Emma Jefferson

# BSC HPAS Best thing about the tutors

They motivate and challenge you but outside the lecture room they are fun and their doors are always open for a chat.

## The best thing about Stran

It is so beautiful! Going for a walk and enjoying the wildlife and trees.



#### **James Robinson**

**BEd Primary** 

Tell us about extra-curricular activities you are involved in

Panto, Choir, Students' Union, Executive and College Events.

#### Favourite place on campus

Panto, Students' Union and Betty's Coffee Shop.

# Your Learning Environment

At Stranmillis, you are taught by an exceptional team of globally recognised education researchers and practitioners. Over 65% of our teaching staff have completed doctorates – almost double the UK average for University Education departments. This expertise means that you learn from established leaders in their field.



# A Community of Shapers

Innovative thinking, pushing boundaries and creating new and better solutions to professional practice and global issues, such as academic underachievement and special educational needs, are in our DNA. Our students, like our staff, are inspired to be shapers of education rather than followers.



#### Personal Tutor

As soon as you become a Stran student, you will be assigned a personal tutor. Your tutor will take the time to get to know you and your learning needs, giving you personalised academic support and helping you to stay on track with your studies throughout your degree.

#### **Great Resources**

Whether you're studying in college or off campus, our IT and communication systems and resources utilise the latest technologies. Multi-touch teaching technologies, intranet and web-based learning systems, cloud storage, super-sized personal mailbox and downloadable apps enhance your teaching and learning.



#### **Our Students Rate Us!**

Our ratings for student satisfaction in the independent National Student Survey are amongst the highest in the UK; a further indicator of the quality and excellence of the teaching and support you receive.





# A Fountain of Knowledge

A great place to study and a fantastic resource, with all the books, periodicals, journals and research tools you need, the library is the best place to start, continue and finish essays, coursework, projects and dissertation

# Shaping, **Unlocking,** Building

Education touches the lives of every one of us, and has the power to shape, change and transform lives. As a specialist education-related institution we strive to provide and improve best and next practice. You will be taught to unlock and maximise the potential of every child; learn how to address and tackle key societal issues; and ensure a better education system that helps build better futures for all.



#### Primary Science Teaching Trust Hub

Stranmillis is one of only six PSTT hubs in the UK and has developed a suite of projects to promote science in the primary classroom. These innovative projects include 'Playful Approaches to Science', 'Playful Technology', 'The Titanic Project', 'Digital Storytelling in Primary Science' and 'The Greenpower Project'.



to develop, deliver and roll out a teacher-led, life

#### Innovation to the Core

Innovative and impact-driven research and scholarships are at the heart of who we are, what we do and how we make a difference. Our work in areas such as pedagogy, educational underachievement, antibullying, special educational needs and early years education is internationally recognised as world-class and is positively impacting communities, the economy and the environment in Northern Ireland and beyond.





#### First to Benefit

One of the first places our research affects is our courses; what we teach, where we teach and how we teach. This means your education is built on cutting edge educational thinking.

#### Playful Learning

An all-Ireland project, Playful Learning is driving the implementation of 'play as learning' in the early years classroom and the development of world-class playful approaches to teaching and learning in practice.

# Endless **Possibilities**

Stranmillis is a community of learners who learn with and from each other. Living, learning and sharing alongside students and staff from different countries adds a global outlook and perspective to your studies.





#### Study Abroad

The opportunity to study abroad and truly broaden your horizons is an enriching experience - academically as well as personally. Our students are encouraged and supported to make the most of the available opportunities and almost 32% spend a semester living and studying abroad at one of our 30+ partner institutions worldwide through our Erasmus Plus and International Exchange programmes. Why study abroad?

- experience and share different cultures
- improve your language skills
- explore new worlds
- acquire new perspectives on teaching and learning
- enhance your independence and confidence

#### Global Influence

Our campus may be small and self-contained, but our community stretches far beyond the gates of the College, with an influence and impact that is felt globally. In the 2014 national Research Excellence Framework, 30% of our research outputs were deemed world leading in terms of originality, significance and rigour.





#### Volunteering

Stranmillis has developed close ties with a number of education-related charities such as Fields of Life and Saphara, with student teams volunteering on projects in Uganda and India. Numerous other local volunteering and degree enhancement opportunities are available.

## Shaping Your Future

Enhancing employability is a key part of the student experience. The transferable skills you develop, together with extensive hands-on professional placement, work experience and study abroad opportunities, ensure that as a Stranmillis graduate you will be highly sought after. The Higher Education Statistics Agency currently indicate a 0.6% graduate unemployment rate, making us one of the top institutions in the UK for employability.



#### **Careers Service**

Our Careers Service will support you during your degree programme and for two years after graduation.
Throughout your studies, you will have ongoing opportunities to meet prospective employers at careers fairs and events.



# **Employment Partners**

Stranmillis has developed a wideranging network of over 750 partner organisations who support and work with our students and ensure you make the most of your placement opportunities.





# ■ Alternative Placements

To explore a broader career outlook, all initial teacher education students have the opportunity to expand their experience through a two-week alternative placement programme with one of our 250+ business and community partners.

#### **Degree Enhancement**

Our Degree Enhancement programme helps you to stand out from the crowd. The programme provides a range of opportunities to enhance your skill set through optional short courses, awards and volunteering in areas relevant to your chosen career path.







A university degree is an investment in your future. When you hear about student debt it can seem quite daunting and put some people off pursuing their university dream. But put into context, the Institute for Fiscal Studies estimates that the wage difference between graduates and school-leavers has stayed at about 35% for the past two decades.



#### How much does it cost?

The tuition fees in Northern Ireland (£4,160) are substantially less than those in the rest of the UK (approximately £9,250 per year). Student fees payable are dependent on the 'residency' status of each student as determined by their local Education Authority and for the 2018-19 academic year tuition fees were:

RESIDENCY							
Course Fees 2018-19	Northern Ireland (NI)	Great Britain (GB)	European Union (EU)	International			
Full-Time Undergraduate	£4,160	£9,250	£4,160	£15,550			
PGCE	£4,160	£9,250	£4,160	£15,700			
Course Fees 2018-19	Rate per Module (20 CAT points) NI/GB/EU		Rate per Module (20 CAT points) International				
Part-time Undergraduate	£274		£2,592				

All fees are normally subject to an annual inflationary increase and are correct at the date of publishing. The latest financial information is available on the College website.

#### How are my fees paid?

#### Tuition Fee Loan / Grant

Students can apply to the Student Loan Company (SLC) for tuition fee funding.

#### Pay in full at Enrolment

Tuition fees can be paid by cheque, debit/credit card or bank transfer on registration and enrolment.

#### **Direct Debit Instalments**

A 25% non-refundable deposit by cheque, debit/credit card or bank transfer is payable on registration and enrolment, with the remaining balance split over five equal instalments.

#### Sponsor

You may have an agreement with a sponsor, e.g. your employer, to financially support your studies for the academic year. For further information, visit the College website.

#### How do I meet my cost of living expenses?

A Student Maintenance Loan and/or Grant is available to eligible students to help with day-to-day living costs whilst you are at university. The maximum amount you can get depends on a number of factors such as household income, whether you are living at home or away from home, and whether you are an independent student. Maintenance loans are added to any other student loan taken and are repayable. Grants are not repayable.

#### How much will I pay back each month?

When you begin employment and are earning over the Student Loan Company threshold for repayment, the amount you repay will be linked to your income. Once you earn over £18,330 a year (relating to 2018–19), you will repay 9% of anything over this amount. If your income is below £18,330, or drops to below that amount, you will not have to make any repayments. The time required to repay a loan is based on income and amount borrowed, not on a fixed time period as with commercial loans.

For further information please visit www.studentloanrepayment.co.uk





#### **Stranmillis University College Bursary**

A means-tested bursary of £500 per year is available to all full-time students, where the household income is less than £19,203.

#### **Halls Accommodation Bursary**

An additional number of accommodation bursaries - a 50% contribution to the cost of a standard room in Stran Halls - are also available to students who meet the eligibility for a Stranmillis University College Bursary and are:

- the first person in the immediate family to go into Higher Education, or
- first year, male students studying on the BEd (Primary) course, or
- students with a mobility disability and eligible for Disabled Students' Allowance

#### **Care Leaver Support Bursary**

All verified Care Experienced students are eligible to apply for a free place in Stran Halls for the duration of their course plus a study support bursary of £600 in year 1, £800 in year 2, £1,000 in years 3 and 4 and an additional Care Leaver Graduation Bursary of £500 to assist with transition into employment or postgraduate study. This bursary is not means-tested.

#### **Support Fund**

A Support Fund is available to assist students experiencing financial hardship. The Support Fund prioritises groups such as those with children or with a disability, mature students and those whose return to full-time study has resulted in financial hardship.

Support Fund awards and bursaries are not repayable by the student.

#### **Emergency Loan**

The Support Fund also provides help for students who, for example, may not have received their Maintenance Loan at the beginning of term, in the form of an Emergency Loan. Emergency Loans are repayable immediately upon receipt of the Maintenance Grant.

#### **Males into Teaching Scholarship**

The scholarship is awarded to the top achieving male teacher education students who come from low income families. A scholarship of £1000 is awarded to a male student in each of our Initial Teacher Education (ITE) programmes during their second semester.



# **Explore**Our Courses

## Stranmillis University College offers the following courses:

- BEd (Hons) Primary
- BEd (Hons) Post-Primary ·
- Business and Enterprise
- Mathematics and Science
- Religious Studies
- Technology and Design
- BSc Health, Physical Activity and Sport
- BA Early Childhood Studies
- PGCE Early Years
- M-level study

#### Applications for Full-time Courses

Applications for entry to full-time undergraduate and foundation courses should be made through the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS).

Applications are made online via the UCAS website (www.ucas.com). UCAS starts receiving applications for 2020 entry from 1 September 2019. The closing date for the receipt of applications for 2020 entry is 15 January 2020.

Institution code name: SUCB Institution code: S79

#### Applications for Part-time Degrees, Postgraduate Courses and M-Level study

Applications for part-time degree courses, the Postgraduate Certificate in Education and M-level should be made directly to the University College. The College cannot accept responsibility if the result of an application is affected by omissions, incorrect course choices or by incomplete or inaccurate information supplied by the candidate.

Completed forms should be returned (together with an administration fee) not later than 1 February 2020.



# Undergraduate Entrance Requirements

	UCAS Code	A-Level Grades	GCE A-Level or equivalent subjects required	Access
BEd (Hons) Primary	X120	AAB	All A-level and equivalent qualifications considered	75% average including relevant modules
BEd (Hons) Post-primary Business and Enterprise	N1X3	BBC	At least one from Business Studies, Economics or Accounting	70% average specialising in Business Studies modules
BEd (Hons) Post-primary Mathematics and Science	XG10	ВСС	Mathematics plus one Science Subject	Not available
BEd (Hons) Post-primary Religious Studies	XVC6	ABB	Religious Studies	75% average specialising in English or History modules
BEd (Hons) Post-primary Technology and Design	XW12	BCC	At least one from Technology and Design, Computing or Physics	Not available
BA (Hons) Early Childhood Studies	X310	ВВВ	All A-level and equivalent qualifications considered	70% average including relevant modules
Foundation Degree Early Childhood Studies	See course details	СС	All A-level and equivalent qualifications considered	55% average
BSc (Hons) Health, Physical Activity and Sport	LL34	BCC	At least one from Sports Studies, Physical Education, Biology, Leisure Studies, Home Economics or Health and Social Care	65% average
Foundation Degree Health, Physical Activity and Sport	52L7	ВС	At least one from Sports Studies, Physical Education, Biology, Leisure Studies, Home Economics or Health and Social Care	55% average

#### **GCSE** Requirements:

All applicants must have completed GCSE Mathematics and English at Grade C or above. Some courses have additional Science requirements.

#### **Equivalent Qualifications:**

The following qualifications (at approved standards) may be used as alternatives for GCE A-level examinations:

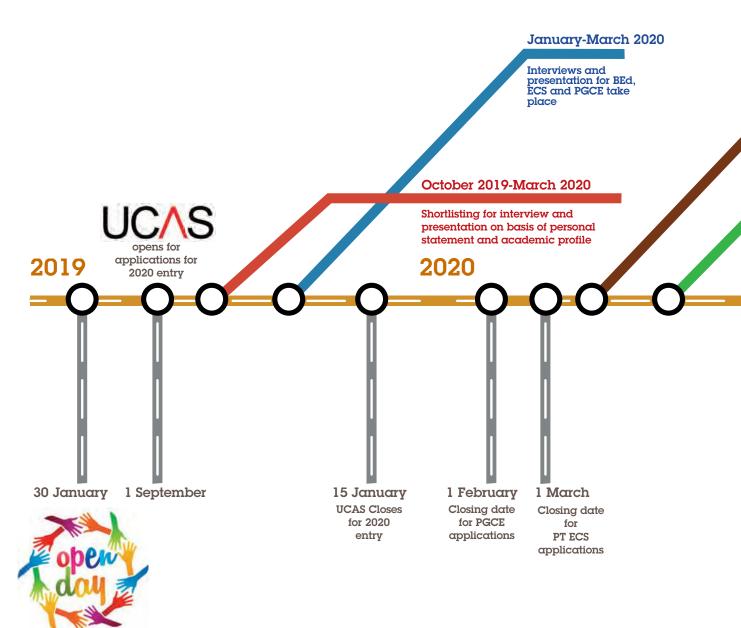
- BTEC National or Higher National Certificate or Diploma;
- International Baccalaureate;
- Scottish Certificate of Education;
- Irish Leaving Certificate;
- A recognised Access Course.

**PGCE:** Upper second class honours degree in the area of Early Years or degree with significant Early Years content, refer to page 45 for specific requirements.

**IMPORTANT:** Access course students should be aware that 'Access to Maths' modules have been developed in order to meet the Maths GCSE requirement.

These requirements are only a guide and variations may occur from year to year. Please contact Academic Registry if in doubt about specific entry requirements or qualifications.

## **Key Dates**





Decisions communicated to applicants

6 June

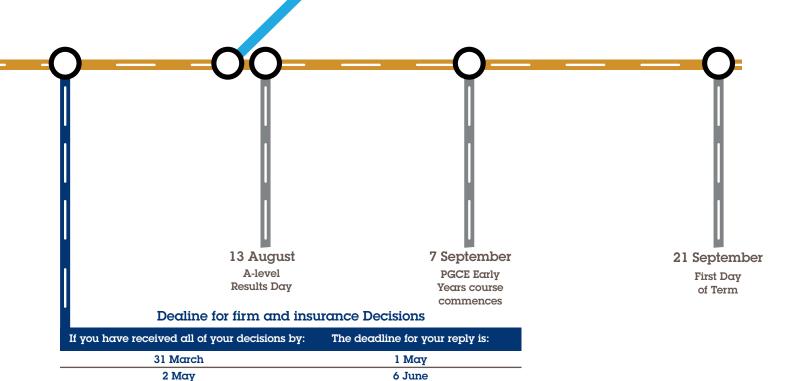
April-May 2020

Information Evening for offer holders



**August-September** 

Confirmation and Clearing



WWW.STRAN.AC.UK 33

20 June



# BEd Primary Education with QTS

**Entry Requirements** 

**Typical A-level Offer:** AAB

**Specific Requirements:** 

**GCSE Grade C** 

English, Mathematics, single or combined Science

**GCE A-level** 

All A-level and equivalent qualifications considered

### **Career Options**

Primary Teacher Early Years Educator Youth Services Charitable and Third Sector Social Work Community Development

## **Key Course Information**

UCAS Code: X120

On our Primary Education degree programme, you will develop as an educational professional with all the qualities needed for a rewarding career in teaching. You will grow as an independent learner and an effective practitioner, developing your own individual teaching style and personality. You will find this course intellectually challenging, internationally relevant and clearly informed by research and scholarship.

#### What will I study?

Education Studies and Curriculum Studies provide the foundation for what you will be studying, providing an overview on education theory, policy and practice. You will also choose a specialist area of learning.

In Year 4, you will conduct research and complete a dissertation on a topic that you are passionate about.

#### **Education Studies**

Education Studies is a constantly changing, diverse and exciting subject of study, exploring psychological, social, philosophical, historical and contemporary aspects of education. Modules include:

- Learning and Assessment in Diverse Classrooms
- Education Research
- Children with Special and Additional Needs
- Contemporary Issues in Pastoral Care
- Playful Learning and Teaching in Practice
- Working with Disadvantaged Pupils

#### **Curriculum Studies**

Curriculum Studies provides the necessary knowledge and understanding of all areas of the Northern Ireland Curriculum and helps develop students' intellectual, practical and transferable skills. Modules include:

- Language and Learning
- Religious Education and Personal Development and Mutual Understanding (PDMU)
- Leadership in Learning and Teaching
- World Around Us
- Mathematics and Numeracy
- Playful Approaches to Science

#### Specialist Subject

You will choose a specialist area of learning of the Northern Ireland curriculum from:

- Art and Design
- Drama and English
- Geography and History
- Maths and Numeracy
- Music
- Physical Education
- Religious Education
- Science and Technology

#### How will I be assessed?

A variety of assessment methods are used, including critically reflective essays; individual and group projects and presentations; e-portfolios; formal examinations; assessment on placement and final dissertation.

Every year you will spend 7-9 weeks in a school or educational setting, gaining experience in a range of classes and an alternative education setting. In year 3, you will also have the opportunity to spend a semester studying abroad at one of our partner universities worldwide.

#### Who will be teaching me?

In University and on your school-based professional placements, you will be taught, assessed and supported by an exceptional team of internationally recognised, research-led and experienced practitioners. As a small, specialist institution, our tutors get to know you – your strengths, your weaknesses, your abilities and your talents – and will support you to become a learning leader.



## BEd Post-Primary with QTS

It is no secret that a good education has the power to inspire individuals. Teachers are in a unique position to shape and change the lives of young people, their families and communities. Our BEd Post-primary programmes will equip you with the specific skills, knowledge and experience to create a positive learning environment in your chosen subject, inspiring young people to maximise their potential and believe in themselves.

Teachers need to be visionaries, lifelong learners, leaders, communicators, collaborators, partners, innovators, creative thinkers, problem solvers, adaptors and role models. Our Post-primary courses help prepare you to be all of these.

#### **Pathways**

There are four Post-primary main subject pathways available:

- Business and Enterprise
- Mathematics and Science
- Religious Education
- Technology and Design

Post-primary students (excluding Mathematics and Science) will also have a further subject selected from:

- Computing
- English
- Mathematics
- Physical Education
- Religious Studies

#### How will I study?

Learning and teaching are delivered through a dynamic and engaging curriculum using a combination of lectures, workshops, seminars and independent study. You also will spend a significant amount of time on placement in a range of schools and educational settings.

In Year 4, you will conduct research and complete a dissertation on a topic that you are passionate about.

#### How will I be assessed?

A variety of assessment methods are used, including critically reflective essays; individual and group projects and presentations; e-portfolios; formal examinations; assessment on placement; and final dissertation.

Every year you will spend 7-9 weeks in a school or educational setting, gaining experience in a range of classes and an alternative education setting. In year 3, you will also have the opportunity to spend a semester studying abroad at one of our partner universities worldwide.

#### Who will be teaching me?

In University and on your school-based professional placements, you will be taught, assessed and supported by an exceptional team of internationally recognised, research-led and experienced practitioners. As a small, specialist institution, our tutors get to know you – your strengths, your weaknesses, your abilities and your talents – and will support you to become a learning leader.

# BEd Post-Primary with QTS

## **Business and Enterprise**

#### What will I study?

You will enjoy an academically stimulating and challenging area which affords you the opportunity to study a range of business topics. Throughout the course you will develop effective delivery methods of business-related subjects which are currently offered at Key Stage 4 and post-16 level. You will improve your critical awareness of the dynamic nature of the business world and the issues faced by changing practices and developments. You will extend your knowledge of a range of enterprising businesses and practices at a local and national level, and recognise the need to adopt an entrepreneurial attitude.

## **Mathematics and Science**

#### What will I study?

If you like problem solving and experiments then you will enjoy discovering the relevance of science in everyday situations. Mathematics is presented as a dynamic subject with an emphasis on flexibility of mind and imaginative teaching methods. Learn how to share your enjoyment of Mathematics and Science amongst the future learning leaders in our community. This course will allow you to study literacy, numeracy, classroom management, voice control, child protection and a wide range of aspects relating to ICT. All students undertake computing in each of the four years of study.

## **Entry Requirements**

Typical A-level Offer: BBC
Specific Requirements:
GCSE Grade C
English and Mathematics
GCE A-level
At least one from Business St

At least one from Business Studies, Economics or Accounting.

## **Career Options**

Post-primary Teacher Educational Centres Community Development Charitable and Third Sector Youth Services Social and Welfare Support

#### **Key Course Information**

UCAS Code: N1X3



I studied Business and Enterprise with Computer Science which included a wide range of modules both on educational aspects and within the subject including marketing, accounting, principles of computing, managing behaviour, iPad training and workshops with Game Maker and Microsoft. The best part of the course is getting out into a school to put it all into practice, which takes a lot of work but provides so much satisfaction when you see the learning that has taken place. The block placements each year give you an insight into the real life workings in a school. It really helps you to grow professionally and personally.

Naomi Boyd BEd Post-primary (Business and Enterprise)

## **Entry Requirements**

Typical A-level Offer: BCC Specific Requirements: GCSE Grade C

English and Mathematics GCSE grade BB in Double Award Science GCE A-level

Mathematics plus one Science subject

## **Career Options**

Post-primary Teacher Educational Centres Community Development Charitable and Third Sector Youth Services Social and Welfare Support

## **Key Course Information**

UCAS Code: XG10

## **Religious Studies**

#### What will I study?

Throughout the course, emphasis is placed on inclusion, respect for diversity and the development of critical openness towards a range of religious beliefs and practices. You will develop a deepening personal awareness and understanding of religion and religious issues, equipping you with the tools to become effective educators of Religious Education. Discover how to teach world religions and consider the contemporary debates relating to Religious Education on the Post-primary curriculum. You will be welcome if you are from any religious background or of no religion.

## **Entry Requirements**

Typical A-Level Offer: ABB Specific Requirements: GCSE Grade C English and Mathematics GCE A-level Religious Studies

## **Career Options**

Post-primary Teacher Educational Centres Community Development Charitable and Third Sector Youth Services Social and Welfare Support

#### **Key Course Information**

UCAS Code: XVC6



Having enjoyed GCSE and A-level Technology and Design, it was no surprise to my teachers and my parents when I decided to apply to Stranmillis University College to study for a BEd degree with a main subject of T&D, with Science as my subsidiary subject. My four years at Stranmillis have been my most memorable years so far. In those four years I got to complete four blocks of teaching practice, teaching a mixture of Technology and Design, Science and ICT in different secondary schools. I also got the opportunity to take part in the College's ERASMUS exchange programme, going off to Sweden for a semester.

**Billie Hamilton-Porter** BEd Post-primary (Technology and Design)

## Technology and Design

#### What will I study?

Are you looking for a creative and dynamic career where you can motivate and challenge young people? Throughout this course you will use new technologies and modern ways of thinking and learning to enable you to become a learning leader. Discover how to integrate new technologies and raise awareness of the implications of technology. The use of computers as a design tool is encouraged and you will have access to up-to-date CNC routers, lathe and milling machines, laser cutters and 3D printers. As an adaptable individual you will develop new skills to teach others in an innovative way, including manufacturing, systems, graphics and CAD/CAM.

## **Entry Requirements**

Typical A-Level Offer: BCC Specific Requirements: GCSE Grade C English and Mathematics GCE A-level

At least one from Technology and Design, Computing or Physics.

## **Career Options**

Post-primary Teacher Educational Centres Community Development Charitable and Third Sector Youth Services Social and Welfare Support

#### **Key Course Information**

UCAS Code: XW12



## BSc Health, Physical Activity and Sport

## **Entry Requirements**

Typical A-Level Offer: BCC
Specific Requirements:
GCSE Grade C
English, Mathematics and Science
GCE A-level

At least one from Sports Studies, Physical Education, Biology, Leisure Studies, Home Economics or Health and Social Care

## **Career Options**

Health Promotion
Physical Activity and Sport
Community Development
Educational Centres and Welfare
Youth Services and Coaching
Physical Education

## **Key Course Information**

UCAS Code: 1134

This is an innovative, multidisciplinary course which seeks to enhance the skills and expertise of those wishing to further their careers within the areas of Health Promotion, Education or a range of opportunities in the field of sport. This course will appeal to those with an active interest in working with young people and provides opportunities to proceed to postgraduate courses in education, nutrition, training and health promotion.

#### What will I study?

Students undertake a broad and diverse programme of study. Each year you will study six modules that include a blend of practical and academic elements plus a period of work-based professional development. In Year 2 and Year 3, there is a range of module choices to allow you to develop greater degrees of specialism.

Examples of study modules include: Sociology of Health and Sport; Sport and Exercise Psychology; Sports Nutrition; Health Promotion and Professional Practice; Managing People and Markets; Exercise Science; and Sport in the Community.

#### How will I study?

In addition to lectures, tutorials, workshops and individual/group projects, you will undertake work placement. Students are encouraged to participate in the ERASMUS+ or international exchange programmes, with the opportunity to study at universities in Europe and further afield. The course culminates in a research-based dissertation which allows students to explore, in depth, a topic of their choice in the areas of health, physical activity and sport.

#### Who will be teaching me?

In University and on your professional placements, you will be taught, assessed and supported by an exceptional team of internationally recognised, research-led and experienced practitioners. The staff are supported by a Course Consultative Committee which includes representatives from a range of health and sport sectors. As a small, specialist institution, our tutors get to know you – your strengths, your weaknesses, your abilities and your talents – and will support you to become a learning leader.



## BA Early Childhood Studies

**Entry Requirements** 

Typical A-Level Offer: BBB
Specific Requirements:
GCSE Grade C
English and Mathematics
GCE A-level
All A-level and equivalent qualifications
considered

### **Career Options**

Early Years Establishments Primary Schools and Nurseries Parent and Toddler Groups Social and Welfare Support Charitable and Third Sector Family Centres and Creches

#### **Key Course Information**

UCAS Code: X310

The Early Childhood Studies course is based on the concept of 'Educare'. It aims to investigate and advance a multi-professional approach to early childhood education and care services in Northern Ireland and beyond. The programme has been designed by professionals across the sector to meet the training needs of current and future practitioners. The course is aimed at both males and females and is offered on a full-time and part-time basis.



#### What will I study?

Early Childhood Studies provides a broad understanding of how young children think, learn and develop. The course modules cover three core themes 'Understanding the Child', 'The Child in the Learning Context' and 'The Child in the Family and Community'.

The course takes account of developments within the field of early childhood and reflects the multi-professional and multidisciplinary nature of contemporary early years services.

#### How will I study?

In addition to lectures, tutorials, workshops and individual/group projects, a substantial part of the teaching and learning process is related to the students' workplace experience. During your studies, you will have the opportunity to work in a variety of settings with children between 0 and 8 years. You will also have the opportunity to apply for an exciting study abroad adventure to live and study at one of the College's European or worldwide partner universities.



#### Who will be teaching me?

In University and on your professional placements, you will be taught, assessed and supported by an exceptional team of internationally recognised, research-led and experienced practitioners. As a small, specialist institution, our tutors get to know you – your strengths, your weaknesses, your abilities and your talents – and will support you to become a learning leader.



# PGCE Early Years with QTS

**Entry Requirements** 

**Typical Offer:** Upper second class honours degree in the area of Early Years or degree with significant Early Years content.

Specific Requirements: GCSE Grade C

English, Mathematics, single or combined Science (must be achieved at time of application)

#### **Career Options**

Early Years Education Charitable and Third Sector Primary Schools and Nursaries Family Centres and Creches

### **Key Course Information**

Applications to be made direct to Stranmillis University College.

A one year postgraduate course, the PGCE (Early Years) is aimed at those who wish to prepare for a teaching career specialising in the 3-8 age range. The course runs for 36 weeks, beginning in early September. The course is assessed wholly by course work and continuous assessment, including the assessment of practical teaching.

#### What will I study?

With the increased emphasis on play as a medium for teaching and learning, the course aims to provide an in-depth knowledge and understanding of how playful approaches to teaching and learning can be effectively implemented.

The course also focuses on the integrated nature of children's learning and how the six key areas of learning at Key Stage 1 are taught through the use of themes. The content of the Revised Northern Ireland Curriculum for Key Stage 1 is examined and the transition from play–based to more formal activities addressed.

#### How will I study?

In addition to seminars, tutorials, workshops and individual/group work, you will undertake an 18 week programme of mostly school-based professional placements: including five weeks in a nursery setting, five weeks in a Foundation Stage classroom (i.e. Year 1 or 2 in a primary school), five weeks in a Key Stage 1 classroom (i.e. Year 3 or 4 of a primary school) and two weeks in an alternative educational setting.

#### Who will be teaching me?

In University and on your school-based professional placements, you will be taught, assessed and supported by an exceptional team of internationally recognised, research-led and experienced practitioners. As a small, specialist institution, our tutors get to know you – your strengths, your weaknesses, your abilities and your talents – and will support you to become a learning leader.

#### **Application**

In addition to the entry requirements, substantial and recent experience of working with children in the 3-8 age range will also be required. Entry to the PGCE (Early Years) will be based on qualifications, reference, relevant experience and an interview. Due to the competition for places, admission requirements may be enhanced at the short-listing stage, and applicants who are short listed will be called for interview, which will include a short presentation by the candidate.



## **Foundation Degrees**

# Health, Physical Activity and Sport

A two year, full-time course delivered at Belfast Met, the Foundation Degree consists of 12 compulsory modules: Physical Activity and Sport for Specific Groups, Introduction to Management in Health Physical Activity and Sport, Fitness Testing and Training, Physical Activity Lifestyle and Wellbeing, Practical Studies, Anatomy and Physiology for Sport and Health, Introduction to Health Sport and Exercise Psychology, Applied Sport and Exercise Psychology, Personal Professional Development, Event Management in Health and Physical Activity, Work-Based Experience and Research Project in Health.

A range of work-based placements, opportunities to volunteer at live sporting events run by Belfast City Council and project-based assessments complement your academic studies. Successful completion of this course will enable you to progress to Year 2 of the BSc (Hons) Degree in Health, Physical Activity and Sport at Stranmillis University College.

## **Entry Requirements**

Typical A-level Offer: BC Specific Requirements: GCSE Grade C English and Mathematics

## **Key Course Information**

UCAS code: 52L7

## **Early Childhood Studies**

The Early Childhood Studies programme focuses on the key theories, concepts and application of working practices with children in the age range 0 to 8 years. Academic modules include Child Development, Learning Through Play, The Acquisition of Language and Communication Skills, Safeguarding Children, Developing Skills and Strategies for Managing Children's Behaviour, Working With Children with Additional Needs and Science and Technology in the Early Years. A varied programme of professional placements complements and supports your classroom learning.

The course is delivered by the Regional Colleges and can be studied full-time (2 years) or part-time (3 years) depending on location. Graduates who achieve the desired standard may be eligible for articulation to Year 2 of the BA (Hons) Early Childhood Studies degree [full-time or part-time]. For further information contact your nearest Regional College.

## **Entry Requirements**

Typical A-level Offer: CC Specific Requirements: GCSE Grade C English and Mathematics

## **Key Course Information**

UCAS Code: LX53

1: SWC Omagh 2: SRC Newry

3: BMC Belfast

4: SERC Lisburn

5: NRC Ballymena

6: NRC Newtownabbey

7: NWRC Derry



# M-level study

## **Module Examples:**

- Leadership in Practice
- Outdoor Learning
- Wellbeing in Early Years
- Quality Pedagogy
- Healty Minds, Healthy Bodies
- Factors Affecting Literacy Development
- Safeguarding Children and Young People
- International Perspectives on Bullying
- Social, Emotional and Behavioural Difficulties

Stranmillis offers five M-level pathways to enhance the skills, competencies and career-long personal development of education-related professionals. The specialist modules on each pathway are designed to help practitioners reflect in depth on theory and practice in a professional context; discuss and evaluate research and best practice in educational policy, practice and theory; and reflect on personal and professional development.

#### Master of Teaching (MTeach)

The online Master of Teaching (MTeach) offers a blend of learning opportunities for the practitioner who aims to advance their teaching skills while working. Studying at a distance means you can also visit Stranmillis for support/supervision and you can avail of both our online resources and on-campus facilities.

# Master of Education - Education Studies (MEd)

This specialist option draws upon a wide range of academic disciplines (such as history, philosophy, psychology and sociology) to further a student's understanding of learning and educational contexts. Education Studies looks at how we learn, from early childhood through the years of compulsory schooling and into adulthood.

#### Master of Education -Pastoral Care (MEd)

This specialist option addresses a need for high-quality professional development in the critical and challenging area of pastoral care and equips students to respond effectively to a range of challenging pastoral situations such as children experiencing abuse, bullying or mental health issues.

#### Master of Education -SEN Literacy Specialist Option (MEd)

The fully online SEN specialist options are ideal for students who wish to develop the specialist knowledge and skills to teach children with Dyslexia or fulfil the role of individual specialist assessor for examination access arrangements.

#### Master of Arts -Early Childhood Studies (MA)

This programme will appeal to education professionals with a passion for the education and care of young children, developing and enhancing the knowledge and skills of early years practitioners as they improve the outcomes and opportunities for children, families and communities.

#### **Recognition of Prior Learning**

The degree recognises and supports existing professional development activities. Candidates may seek accreditation for completed school-based professional development activities. Application for credit transfer and exemption from module requirements must be made upon enrolment.

# **Application**

## **Procedures**

## Selection Criteria for QTS Programmes: BEd (Hons) and PGCE Courses

The teacher education requirements are in compliance with General Teaching Council (NI) accreditation and Department of Education (NI) guidelines as part of the University College's approved programmes leading to Qualified Teacher Status. Entry is competitive and the University College will take account of the following:

- nature and level of academic performance and potential
- Personal desire, motivation and commitment for the course and for teaching, evidenced in personal statement
- relevant experience in a structured environment
- interview and presentation

#### **Entrance Requirements**

All applicants must have completed GCSE Mathematics and English at grade C or above. Some courses have additional Science requirements. Applicants for BEd (Primary) and PGCE will also be required to have achieved GCSE Grade C in a single or combined science subject and applicants for BEd (Post-primary: Mathematics and Science) require a minimum of BB in GCSE Double Award Science. At minimum, entrants must be able to satisfy the General Entrance Requirements of Queen's University.

A-level entry requirements for each course are outlined in the Undergraduate Entrance Requirements 2020 table on page 31.

# The following qualifications (at approved standards) may be used as alternatives for GCE A-Level examinations:

- BTEC National or Higher National Certificate or Diploma
- International Baccalaureate
- Scottish Certificate of Education
- Irish Leaving Certificate
- A recognised Access Course.

For the **PGCE Early Years**, the minimum requirement for admission is an upper second class (2:1) honours degree in the area of early years or a degree with significant early years content. Account may also be taken of the range and quality of the candidate's GCSE and GCE A-level results. Substantial and recent experience of working with children in the 3-8 age range is required. Relevant experience may include, for example, work as a classroom assistant. This experience must have been gained at the time of application.

Applicants are advised to consult Academic Registry if they have queries about their qualifications.

#### **Applicant Days**

To help with your decision making process, various programmes will hold course specific applicant days. Please visit our 'Applicant Days' web pages to help you identify the main things that you have to do throughout the application cycle – both before and after you make your application.

#### **Personal Statement**

Your personal statement is your opportunity to tell us what motivates you, what your ambitions are, your transferable skills, about research you have done and your experiences, including volunteering. It should prove your commitment and demonstrate relevant, structured work experience.

#### Interview and Presentation for Initial Teacher Education, PGCE and Early Childhood Studies

All shortlisted applicants for BEd (Hons), PGCE Early Years and BA Early Childhood Studies will be required to attend an interview and deliver a presentation to a selection panel. The interview and presentation are used to assess the suitability of the candidate and whether they possess the qualities which, after development, will help to make the applicant an effective classroom practitioner and a person whose professional views will command respect.

Interviews are held in the University College and a candidate will normally be interviewed by a panel of two, at least one of whom will be a member of the University College's academic staff, whilst the other may be a serving or retired education professional.

#### **Deferred Entry**

The University College does not accept applications from students who wish to defer.

# **Application**Procedures

## Disability, Medical Condition or Special Need (all courses)

Stranmillis encourages applications from students with disabilities and endeavours to make sure that individual requirements are met. Deciding to disclose a disability can be a difficult choice for students applying to University. While we accept this to be a personal decision, we strongly recommend that applicants inform us in order that individual requirements can be addressed so that appropriate support is made available from the commencement of the course. Please be assured that disclosure of disability information or support requirements will not adversely influence any application or indeed the application process. The information you provide will be treated as sensitive and kept strictly confidential. It will only be used to plan for your individual support requirements ensuring that your transition to Stranmillis is as smooth as possible. If you need any guidance about disclosing disability, or the arrangements which we can make, please contact:

Student Support and wellbeing centre: (028) 9038 4510 email: disabilityservices@stran.ac.uk

#### **Applications from Mature Students**

Stranmillis welcomes applications from mature students who have interrupted their studies for several years or did not have the opportunity to enter higher education.

We require evidence of recent academic study. The qualifications most frequently offered by such candidates are Access courses, A-levels, Diplomas, Foundation Degrees, modules of the part-time BA Early Childhood Studies degree and Open University credits. All applicants to the undergraduate courses must possess GCSE English and Mathematics at Grade C or above (or acceptable equivalents).

#### **Medical Fitness**

All candidates who have accepted a firm offer of a place on any course must complete and return a Declaration of Health. In the light of the replies given, the University College Medical Officer will classify the candidate as fit, or seek specialist advice before classifying a candidate as either fit or unfit.

#### **Enhanced AccessNI Check**

It is a requirement that applicants who are accepted onto all undergraduate degrees and the PGCE Early Years programme at Stranmillis undergo an Enhanced AccessNI Check. This is administered by the University College and carried out by AccessNI. The University College acknowledges the key role of education in the rehabilitative process, and a criminal record will not debar an applicant unless the nature and seriousness of the offence in question are incompatible with:

- 1. the course applied for
- 2. the ultimate professional or vocational goal; or
- participation in an academic and social setting and the University's responsibility to ensure a safe and neutral environment.

#### **Disclaimer**

Stranmillis University College is concerned at all times to evaluate its courses in the light of statutory obligation, accreditation

requirements and responses from staff, students and teachers – and to make improvements where they are considered to be appropriate.

The printed prospectus is published prior to the academic year to which it relates and information may therefore be subject to further alteration. You should therefore refer to the online prospectus, available at www.stran.ac.uk for the latest information and guidance when you apply for a course. Changes to programmes, modules, and services may be necessary; for example, to meet the requirements of an accrediting body or to keep courses current as a result of research and development. Changes to programmes may also be necessary due to circumstances outside the reasonable control of the University College, such as a key member of staff leaving the University College or being unable to teach or where there are too few students for a module(s) to be viable and to ensure the student experience the University College aims to provide. If changes to your programme are made after you have accepted your offer, the University College will notify you of such changes and will aim to minimise any disruption to you by offering suitable alternative arrangements or by helping you to find an alternative module(s).

For further information please contact: Academic Registry email: registry@stran.ac.uk



# Stran

# Heritage

#### 1922

The College opened in October to provide courses for Primary School teachers

#### 1930

Official opening of the Main Building by the Duchess of Atholl, MP

#### 1939

The College site used by the military as a hospital and classes relocated to Portrush on the North Antrim coast until May 1944

#### 1940

17 men were awarded King's Scholarship senior pupil teacherships tenable for two years

## 1944

Opening of the Henry Garrett building, designed by Rippingham. Wartime shortages meant no wood was used in its construction

## 1960

Four year BEd degree, awarded by QUB and taught by Stranmillis staff, with 'recognised teacher' status

## 1966

Refectory Building and six Halls of Residence built, representing the six counties of Northern Ireland

## 1969

Selected to provide intensive training for Commonwealth students from West Indies, Malaysia, Cyprus, Brunei, Zambia, Tanzania, Malta and Uganda

#### 1987

Development of partnership with St Mary's University College on cross-community contact scheme and education for mutual understanding

## 1991

Planning Order: campus made an area of special architectural or historic interest

## 1994

Erasmus networks established

## 1996

BA Early Childhood Studies commenced

## 1998

BSc Health and Leisure Studies began. MEd introduced

#### 2006

Launch of Effective Pre-School Provision in Northern Ireland (EPPNI)

#### 2006

MA Early Childhood Studies introduced

#### 2007

Foundation Degree ECS introduced

## 2008

Successful Research Assessment Exercise (RAE)

#### 2011

Launch of International Fund for Ireland CREDIT Project

#### 2012

Launch of SEN Literacy Project

#### 2013

Foundation Degree HPAS introduced

#### 2014

Successful Research Excellence Framework (REF) exercise

## 2017

Blurred Lives Pan-European Research Project

## 2018

Launch of Centre for Research in Educational Underachievement (CREU)

#### 2018

Successful Quality Review Visit



## **Stranmillis University College**

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