



STRANMILLIS UNIVERSITY COLLEGE  
A College of Queen's University Belfast

# PROSPECTUS 2021



# WHY STRANMILLIS?



**SATISFACTION**

Joint number 1 in Northern Ireland for student satisfaction (NSS).



**STUDENT RETENTION**

Stranmillis has one of the highest student retention rates (98%) in the UK.



**WORK-BASED PLACEMENT**

100% of our students undertake an extensive programme of work placements.



**GLOBAL CAMPUS**

Learn with and from students from over 20 different countries.



**STUDY ABROAD**

32% of our students undertake a study abroad experience.



**ECO CAMPUS**

The College is the first HEI in Northern Ireland to be awarded EcoCampus status.



**STRAN HALLS**

Unique catered accommodation and affordable student living.



**RESEARCH EXCELLENCE**

72% of research outputs deemed internationally excellent (REF 2014).



**QUALITY ASSURED**

QAA assessment reaffirmed the highest quality of teaching and learning.



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# SHAPING YOUR WORLD

“EDUCATION IS THE MOST POWERFUL WEAPON WHICH YOU CAN USE TO CHANGE THE WORLD.”

Nelson Mandela

Education impacts every one of us and has the power to transform the lives of children, young people, families and whole communities. Stranmillis University College has a long heritage and reputation for leading and driving innovation in education.

For almost 100 years, we have been at the forefront of education research, scholarship and teaching; shaping educational best and next practice, unlocking the potential of children and young people and building better futures for all.

At Stranmillis, our teaching, our scholarship, our research and our approach are focused on equipping you with the skills, knowledge and experience to become an outstanding educator. Those transferable skills, and the ability to communicate, inspire and innovate, make our graduates highly sought after in various fields, within education and many other sectors.

Our exceptional academic team and support staff are passionate about education; a passion to inspire you, challenge you and support you to become a creative thinker and learning leader.

Stranmillis is a specialist institution, but one that is making a big impact globally. Choosing to study at Stranmillis opens up a world of opportunities. Shape your world, and help shape a better future for all, with us.

**Professor Anne Heaslett**  
PRINCIPAL





# YOUR HOME AWAY FROM HOME

Living in student halls can be one of the best and most memorable experiences of university life, especially when you are studying in a vibrant city like Belfast. Open to students from any university or college, Stran Halls offers a unique, catered, student living package that allows you to make the most of your time at university.

- 469 fully furnished single bedrooms
- Breakfast and dinner, 7 days a week (term-time)
- 37/38 week contracts
- All utility bills included
- High speed WiFi in room
- Bed linen supplied and laundered
- 2 FREE evening short classes
- FREE gym membership (£20 enrolment fee applies)
- Cleaning of communal areas
- Extensive on-campus facilities



## LOCATION <

Our six halls of residence are located on campus, providing safe, secure student accommodation. Set in 18 hectares of stunning grounds on the banks of the River Lagan, Stran Halls are conveniently located in the Queen's student quarter, within walking distance of everything Belfast has to offer and with excellent access to rail and bus networks.



**ROOMS >**

Stran Halls has 469 modern, fully furnished, single occupancy bedrooms with a choice of shared or ensuite bathrooms and access to communal kitchen facilities. All bed linen is supplied and laundered on a weekly basis and communal areas, such as showers, are cleaned daily. If you and your friends want bedrooms close to each other, we'll arrange it!



## FOOD ^

Stran Halls is catered, taking the hassle out of cooking, washing up and trips to the supermarket, leaving you more time for socialising and studying. Catering includes a cooked breakfast and 3-course evening meal, seven days a week (term-time) in 'Chatz' restaurant.



## AFFORDABLE LIVING <

Bed, food, utilities, WiFi and extra benefits such as gym membership and free evening short courses; Stran Halls has it covered. The most affordable student halls package, Stran Halls is the only halls accommodation in Belfast that allows you to live within the maximum maintenance grant when living away from home.



# 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 located just 1.5 miles from the city centre, everything Belfast has to offer is on your doorstep.



## 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).



## 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.'

## CULTURED v

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



## 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.



## BUZZING <

Entertainment, food, music, nightlife. From the cobblestone streets of the Cathedral Quarter to the waterfront and entertainment hub 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.



# SPACE FOR YOU

The Stranmillis campus is a place of remarkable beauty and interest. Listed buildings and modern teaching spaces; beautiful grounds with ponds, woodlands and open green spaces; great facilities to help you develop your sporting, art, drama or musical talents; and social spaces to eat, drink and enjoy some downtime with friends combine to create a unique campus and community for you to study, relax, unwind and express yourself.



## ECO CAMPUS

The College is first HEI in Northern Ireland to be awarded EcoCampus status.

## STUDY >

Over the past couple of years, the College has invested heavily in creating world-class teaching and learning spaces. Our virtual learning environment, interactive teaching technologies, library and study resources as well as integrated communication systems are designed to help you succeed and ensure that you have everything you need for formal, group and independent study.



## RELAX >

When you walk through the gates of the College, it is easy to forget that you are so close to the heart of Belfast. Set in 18 hectares of woodland, the campus is a peaceful, conservation-designated haven that has been awarded EcoCampus status. Whether it's for a walk to clear your mind or finding a peaceful spot to simply sit back and relax, the campus is a stunning canvas to explore and enjoy.



## UNWIND ^

When it's time to unwind, Betty's coffee shop, Scholars Bar, Cyber-Tub, Chatz and the Students' Union are lively social spaces to meet and spend time with friends. If you are looking for something a bit more active, you can hit the gym, sports hall or dance studio or enrol in one of the many health and fitness short courses available on campus.



## EXPRESS <

If you have a passion for art, design, music or drama, the College has specialist resources to enable you to express yourself and develop your talents. Facilities include a 260-seat drama theatre, a music suite with extensive recital and individual practice rooms and dedicated studios for ceramics, textiles, art and design; and if you love performing, there are a wealth of opportunities to showcase your talents from panto to choir, Stran does Strictly to Music@Stran.



# SUPPORTING YOU

We recognise that no two students are the same. Whilst many students will never need to use the services provided by our Student Support team, if you do, the team is on hand to help provide a listening ear, whether it's for support with personal or health concerns, studies or financial guidance.



## STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES >

Our friendly, experienced team offer a broad range of health, well-being, 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.



## CHAPLAINCY ^

The College has a strong ethos of diversity and mutual understanding and pastoral care, and our chaplains welcome and provide pastoral support to students from all faiths, denominations, beliefs and backgrounds.

## COMMUNICATIONS SKILLS CENTRE v

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



## PEER MENTORING ^

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



## 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.



# YOUR STUDENTS' UNION

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 delivery of the highest standards of teaching, learning and professional development; and ensuring you have the opportunities to make the most of your skills and talents through an extensive programme of extra-curricular activities.



## YOUR VOICE

Our National Student Survey score ranks Stranmillis University College as the joint top higher education institution in Northern Ireland for overall student satisfaction.



## SU CHARITY >

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

## THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT <

The Union is incredibly important to the social life of the College and organises a varied programme of events and activities throughout the year, from Fresher's Week to Stran does Strictly, acoustic nights in Scholars Bar to the Back to School Bop and Annual Ball.



## STAGE TO SPORTSFIELD >

Whether you are interested in sport (Kings Scholars RFC, GAA, Football or Hockey), music, media, drama or the Christian Union, there are 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



## JOSHUA BOOTH BEd POST-PRIMARY TECHNOLOGY AND DESIGN

### WHAT IS THE MOST ENJOYABLE THING ABOUT YOUR COURSE?

As a Post-primary Technology and Design student, the best part of the course is getting into the workshop. Having the opportunity to take an idea and turn it into a physical product using the latest technologies is truly amazing.

### WHAT IS THE BEST THING ABOUT CAMPUS/STRANMILLIS?

There is a real sense of community on campus. When you first set foot in Stranmillis everyone is so welcoming, this camaraderie flows the whole way through Stranmillis in both the students who are studying here and the members of staff who work here.

### WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PLACE ON CAMPUS?

My favourite place on campus has to be the Drama Theatre. I have a keen interest in technical theatre so enjoy running sound for the various events Stranmillis host. If anyone was to find me on campus I would be in the Drama Theatre!

### WHAT IS THE BEST THING ABOUT THE TUTORS?

The tutors are approachable and not only provide us with the tools and knowledge for becoming an educator, but provide humour and remind us to always to have fun while learning.



## KATIE WILSON BEd PRIMARY

### WHAT IS THE BEST THING ABOUT STRANMILLIS?

Your year group is small enough that you get to know everyone, as well as feeling at home. Everyone is working towards a common goal and its nice to be able to openly share your experiences with the people you see everyday.

### WHAT IS THE BEST THING ABOUT THE TUTORS?

They make your experience really personal. They take the time to get to know you and are always there for you if you have any questions or concerns. Every tutor in Stranmillis is very approachable.

### THREE WORDS THAT DESCRIBE STRAN:

- Homely
- Helpful
- Supportive



## AARON ROBINSON BEd PRIMARY

### WHAT IS THE BEST PLACE ON CAMPUS?

The best place on campus is the library as it is the perfect place to get your work done and also has great ICT facilities.

### WHAT IS THE BEST THING ABOUT STRANMILLIS?

The sense of community, as everyone you meet always greets you with a smile. I have been involved in several activities this year - choir, chamber choir, student council, strictly come dancing and panto. I would recommend immersing yourself as much as possible and make lifelong friends.

### WHAT IS THE BEST THING ABOUT THE TUTORS.

The tutors at Stran are great as they always create a relaxed atmosphere both in lectures and seminars. Not only that, but they always go above and beyond to give you the support you need.

### THREE WORDS THAT DESCRIBE STRAN:

- Rewarding
- Welcoming
- Family



**ANDREW PENNEY**  
BEd PRIMARY

**WHAT IS THE MOST ENJOYABLE THING ABOUT YOUR COURSE?**

Really enjoy the placement opportunities and getting first-hand experience of teaching.

**WHAT IS THE BEST THING ABOUT CAMPUS?**

The sociable environment.

**TELL US ABOUT THE ACTIVITIES YOU'VE BEEN INVOLVED WITH...**

Stran TV.



**MEABH MAGEE**  
BEd PRIMARY

**WHAT IS THE BEST THING ABOUT STRANMILLIS?**

Everyone is unbelievably welcoming and friendly and there's this real community spirit, everyone is interested in what you're doing and how you are, so you never can feel alone.

**TELL US ABOUT THE ACTIVITIES YOU'VE BEEN INVOLVED IN...**

I was Creative Director for our 2019 Pantomime 'Aladdin', an unbelievable experience; I'm part of Stran TV, I never laugh as much as I do with the Stran TV members! and I'm on the Student Representative Council (SRC) which allows us as students to have their voices heard.

**WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PLACE ON CAMPUS?**

I'd say the Drama Theatre – it's like my second home and where most of my fondest memories have been made and I've met so many friends at Student's Union events staged there that I would never have made contact with otherwise.



**REBECCA MURPHY AND RACHEL MCKAY**  
BED PRIMARY

**BEST PLACE ON CAMPUS?**

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

**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!



**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.



**ZARA MCNALLY**  
BA ECS

**BEST THING ABOUT CAMPUS?**

Students' Union, Panto, Volunteering and CU!

**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.



# YOUR LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Studying at Stranmillis, you are part of a community of passionate educators whose research, scholarship and teaching is making an impact locally, nationally and internationally. Our commitment to excellence is one of the reasons why our students are highly sought after, and why we are consistently ranked as one of the UK's top institutions for student retention and student success.



## A FOUNTAIN OF KNOWLEDGE ▼

With all the books, periodicals, journals and research tools you need, the library is the best place to start and complete assignments, projects or dissertation.

## ✓ OUR STUDENTS RATE US!

Our ratings for student satisfaction in the independent National Student Survey is a further indicator of the quality and excellence of the teaching and support you receive at Stranmillis.

## AN EXCEPTIONAL TEAM >

At Stranmillis, you are taught by a team of globally recognised education researchers, scholars and practitioners. Over 67% of our teaching staff are qualified to doctoral level – almost double the UK average for university education departments. This expertise means that you learn from established leaders in their field.



## WORLD-CLASS FACILITIES ▼

Whether it's for formal teaching, personal study or off-campus study, you will benefit from a £600k investment in developing a world-class teaching and learning environment. The latest interactive teaching technologies, Virtual Learning Environment, IT suites, timetabling and placement software and digital communication and app technologies are student-centric and designed to enhance and support your learning.

## A BLENDED APPROACH ^

Our teaching staff have a passion and desire to learn, to question, to innovate and instil those same qualities in you. We know that doesn't happen in the lecture theatre alone. Your teaching and learning experience is enriched through a blended learning approach of lectures, workshops, tutorials, group and individual projects and self-directed study.

## PERSONAL TUTOR

All students are assigned a personal tutor for the duration of their degree. Your tutor will take the time to get to know you and your learning needs, giving you personal academic support and helping you to stay on track with your studies.

## PLACES TO STUDY >

Whether it's a quiet place for independent study or group assignments, discussions and study, you have a wealth of study areas and learning zones to choose from, all equipped with the resources, research tools and IT support you need.



## 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 is in our DNA. Our students, like our staff are inspired to be shapers of education rather than followers.





# SHAPING UNLOCKING BUILDING

Education impacts every one of us, and has the power to shape, change and transform lives. As a research-led and impact-driven specialist education institution, we are continually striving to improve best and next practice, equipping tomorrows educationalist with the tools to unlock and maximise the potential of every child, and tackle key societal issues such as educational underachievement, special educational needs and cyberbullying.

## EDUCATIONAL UNDERACHIEVEMENT >

Educational underachievement is one of the most significant, complex and multi-faceted challenges facing society. Our newly established Centre for Research in Educational Underachievement (CRUE) is a forward thinking move to provide innovative, interdisciplinary research and offer evidence-based responses to help raise attainment, improve children's lives and shape future policy and practice in this vital area.



## FIRST TO BENEFIT >

One of the first places our research affects is our own teaching; what we teach, where we teach and how we teach. This means that your teaching and learning is built on leading edge educational thinking.



## INNOVATION TO THE CORE

Innovative and impact-driven research and scholarship is at the heart of who we are, what we do and how we make a difference. Our work in areas such as pedagogy, academic underachievement, bullying, outdoor learning, cyberbullying, special educational needs and playful learning is internationally recognised as world class and is positively impacting communities, the economy and the environment.



## TACKLING CYBERBULLYING <

Blurred Lives is a Pan-European project led by Stranmillis, alongside partners in England, Germany, Italy and the Netherlands, looking at cyberbullying, young people and socio-economic disadvantage. On the back of the Erasmus+ funded research, the team has been working with schools and children across Europe to develop a range of innovative resources for teachers and pupils to help tackle this increasing problem for young people.

## CODING IT UP >

Growing software development skills and capabilities is a key economic and government priority. Stranmillis regularly hosts local primary schools, encouraging the children to 'Go Berserk' and learn how to create a website using html coding. The highly successful programme has encouraged many of the schools involved to consider setting up Coding Academies.





# BROADENING YOUR HORIZONS

Learning alongside students from different countries; spending time living and studying abroad; and getting involved in international volunteering initiatives. At Stranmillis, you will have opportunities to broaden your horizons, develop a global outlook and international perspective on education; adding richness and diversity to your learning experience.



## GLOBAL COMMUNITY >

With over 30 university partners worldwide, the College is committed to making an impact globally. Through our research and scholarship activities, our outgoing and incoming student and staff exchange and study abroad programmes and our international development initiatives, the College is a globally connected community of learners who learn with and from each other.



## 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 and initiatives in Uganda and India. Numerous other local volunteering and degree enhancement opportunities are also available.



## 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 locally, nationally and internationally. In the most recent Research Excellence Framework (REF 2104), 72% of our research was rated as world-leading or internationally excellent.



## STUDY ABROAD <

The opportunity to study abroad is an enriching experience - academically and personally. You will be encouraged and supported to make the most of the opportunities available, and a third of our students take up the opportunity of studying at one of the 30+ partner institutions worldwide through our Erasmus+ and International Exchange programmes – experiencing, exploring and sharing different cultures; improving their language skills; enhancing their independence and confidence; and acquiring new perspectives on teaching and learning.



# SHAPING YOUR FUTURE

Enhancing employability is central to your Stranmillis experience. The transferable skills you develop through your academic studies, together with the extensive experience you gain through your work-based professional placements, ensure that, as a Stranmillis graduate, you are highly sought after. The unemployment rate for our graduates six months after graduation (Higher Education Statistics Agency) is just 0.6%.



## EMPLOYMENT PARTNERS

Stranmillis has developed an extensive network of over 750 partner organisations who support and work closely with the College to ensure you make the most out of your time whilst on placement.



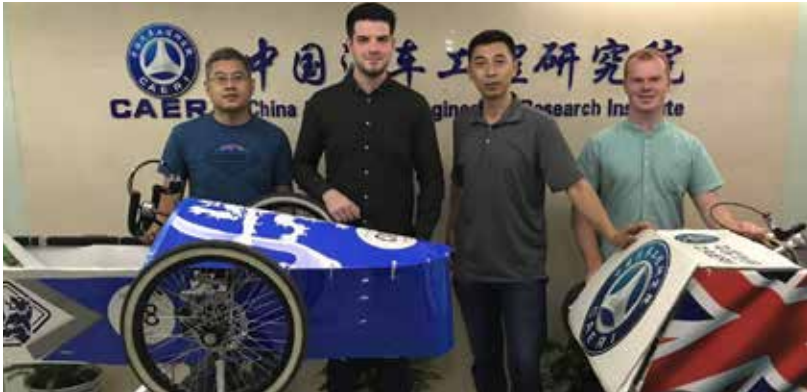
## WORK-BASED PLACEMENTS ^

An extensive programme of work-based professional placements lies at the heart of all of our courses, providing you with practical, hands-on experience in a range of relevant workplace settings. For example, to explore a broader career outlook, our BEd students, in addition to their school-based placements, also undertake a placement with one of our 250+ 'alternative placement' partners.



## DEGREE ENHANCEMENT ^

Our Degree Enhancement programme is designed to help you to stand out from the crowd. The programme provides a range of opportunities to enhance your skillset through optional short courses, awards, community volunteering opportunities and volunteering activities within the College in areas relevant to your chosen career path.



## A DEGREE THAT TAKES YOU PLACES ^

Integrating and enhancing employability skills is built into the curriculum for all our courses. Department for the Economy (DfE) figures show that education graduates have one of the highest rates of graduate employment, surpassed only by those who studied Medicine, Dentistry and allied subjects. A degree at Stranmillis opens up a world of opportunities, with graduates taking up posts around the globe.

## CAREERS SERVICE v

Throughout your degree, and for two years after graduation, our Careers Service is on hand to provide careers support and guidance, and ensure that you have ongoing opportunities to meet prospective employers at College-organised careers fairs and events.





# AN INVESTMENT IN YOUR FUTURE

Choosing to go to university is an investment in your future. A study from the OECD economics think tank reports that the increased earning power of graduates still greatly exceeds the cost, with the average earnings of graduates 42% higher than those for non-graduates in 2017. Department of Education figures published in April 2019 show that Graduates earn £10,000 more per year than those who don't go to university and, in terms of employability, 87.7 % of graduates are in employment compared with 71.6% of non-graduates.



## HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

Student fees payable are dependent on the 'residency' status of each student as determined by their Local Education Authority and for the 2020-21 Academic Year Tuition Fees are as follows:

	Residency Status			
	Northern Ireland (NI)	Great Britain (GB)	European Union	International
Full Time Undergraduate	£4,395	£9,250	£4,395	£16,900
PGCE	£4,395	£9,250	£4,395	£16,900

Part-time Undergraduate fees for 2020-21 have not yet been confirmed but the table below illustrates typical costs for 2019-20:

	Residency Status			
	NI/GB/EU	NI/GB/EU Total Cost	International	International Total Cost
Year 1 - 3	4 modules (20 CAT Points per Std Module)	£1,128 (£282 per module)	4 modules (20 CAT Points per Std Module)	£10,933 (£2,733 per module)
Year 4	4 modules plus dissertation	£1,692	4 modules plus dissertation	£16,400

Assuming a 4 year Part Time intensity.

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?

Course fees can be paid by the following options:

**Tuition Fee Loan /Grant:** Students can apply to SLC for a tuition fee loan, up to their maximum tuition fee liability.

**Pay in full at enrolment:** Tuition fees can be paid by cheque, debit/credit card or bank transfer.

**Direct Debit:** A 25% minimum payment by cheque, debit/credit card or bank transfer, is due on/before registration and enrolment, with the remaining balance split over 5 equal instalments, normally collected from November through to March.

**Sponsor:** You may have an agreement with a sponsor, e.g. your employer, that they will financially support full or part of your studies for the academic year. Any remaining balance must be paid in full at enrolment and registration by cheque, debit/credit card or bank transfer.

## 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. For more information contact your local Education Authority.

## 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 £18,924 a year (relating to 2019-20), you will repay 9% of anything

over this amount. If your income is below £18,924, 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, and is not on a fixed time period as with commercial loans. For further information, please visit the Student Loans Company website.



# BURSARIES AND SUPPORT

A range of bursaries and financial support funds are available to assist students who meet certain criteria.



## 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. The bursary is not repayable.

## HALLS ACCOMMODATION BURSARY - 50% CONTRIBUTION TO THE COST OF A STANDARD ROOM

Stranmillis University College offers a limited number of 'Halls Accommodation Bursaries' for eligible students from certain priority groups. All applicants must be eligible to receive the Stranmillis University College Bursary and will need to outline how their educational progress would be enhanced by receiving a 50% contribution to the cost of a standard room in our Halls of Residence rather than e.g. continuing to study whilst based at home. The scheme is open to all full-time students (students taking the equivalent of a minimum of 120 CATS points) studying on the Stranmillis campus.

In the event of more applications being received than places available, some, or all, of the following additional criteria will be applied:

- be in receipt of the Disabled Students' Allowance
- have a mobility disability (not a learning disability) but not in receipt of the Disabled Students' Allowance.
- students living furthest away from College (using Google Maps) will be given highest priority.
- first person in their immediate family (i.e. parent/guardian/sibling) to go into Higher Education;
- the postcode of the areas of socio-economic deprivation would be ranked from neediest to least needy.



## CARE EXPERIENCED STUDENTS

Verified Care Experienced students are eligible for a free Halls of Residence place for the duration of their course (no means testing applies to this priority group i.e. they do not need to be entitled to a Stranmillis University College Bursary). Students must apply each year for a free Halls of Residence place.

A Care Leaver Study Support Bursary is available for verified Care Experienced students at the following rates:

- £600 in first year
- £800 in second year
- £1,000 in third year
- £1,000 in final year for those enrolled on a four year degree
- £500 Graduation Bursary to assist with transition into employment or postgraduate study.

## SUPPORT FUND

A Support Fund is also available to assist students who may otherwise be prevented from entering Higher Education. To be eligible to receive an

award from this Fund, students must have accessed all available financial support and loans administered by SLC. Students must also demonstrate that they are experiencing financial hardship.

Support Fund awards are not repayable by the student.

## OTHER FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Local Education Authorities can assist with a range of further financial support dependent on the applicant's personal circumstances. We would encourage all students to contact their local Education Authority as early in the process as possible.

**For further information please contact the University College Finance Office.**



# EXPLORE OUR COURSES

Stranmillis University College offers the following full-time undergraduate degree, foundation degree and PGCE courses:

## UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES

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

## FOUNDATION DEGREES

Early Childhood Studies

Health Physical Activity and Sport

## PGCE

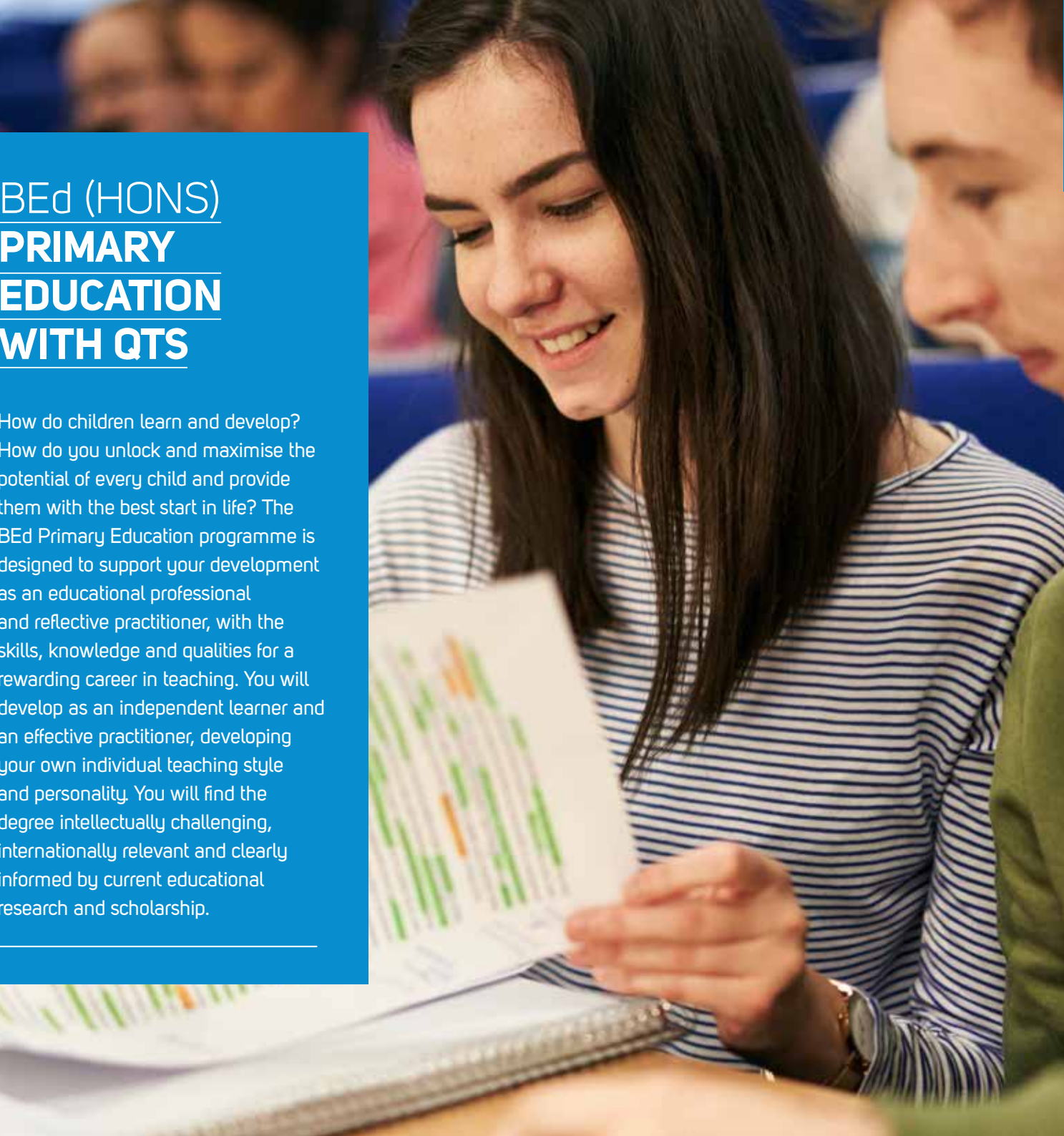
Early Years

# UNDERGRADUATE ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS 2021

	UCAS Code	A-Level Grades	GCE A-Level subject Requirements	GCSE Requirements	Access Course Overall Average
BEd (Hons) Primary	X120	AAB	No A-level subject requirement	English, Mathematics and Science grade C	70%
BEd (Hons) Post-Primary Business and Enterprise	N1X3	BBC	At least one from Business Studies, Economics or Accounting	English and Mathematics grade C	65% in relevant Access course
BEd (Hons) Post-Primary Mathematics and Science	XG10	BCC	Mathematics plus one Science Subject	English and Mathematics grade C - Double Award Science grade BB	Not considered
BEd (Hons) Post-Primary Religious Studies	XVC6	ABB	Religious Studies	English and Mathematics grade C	65% in relevant Access course
BEd (Hons) Post-Primary Technology and Design	XW12	BCC	At least one from Technology and Design, Computing or Physics	English and Mathematics grade C	65% in relevant Access course
BA (Hons) Early Childhood Studies	X310	BBB	No A-level subject requirement	English and Mathematics grade C	65%
Foundation Degree Early Childhood Studies	LX53	BB	No A-level subject requirement	English and Mathematics grade C	55%
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	English, Mathematics and Science grade C	65% in relevant Access course
Foundation Degree Health Physical Activity and Sport	52L7	BC	At least one from Sports Studies, Physical Education, Biology, Leisure Studies, Home Economics or Health and Social Care	English and Mathematics grade C	55%

For information on Alternative Qualifications see page 56. 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.





# BEd (HONS) PRIMARY EDUCATION WITH QTS

How do children learn and develop? How do you unlock and maximise the potential of every child and provide them with the best start in life? The BEd Primary Education programme is designed to support your development as an educational professional and reflective practitioner, with the skills, knowledge and qualities for a rewarding career in teaching. You will develop as an independent learner and an effective practitioner, developing your own individual teaching style and personality. You will find the degree intellectually challenging, internationally relevant and clearly informed by current educational research and scholarship.

## BED(HONS) PRIMARY EDUCATION WITH QTS

Entry Requirements: AAB

Duration: 4 years

UCAS Code: X120

### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Education Studies and Curriculum Studies provide the foundation for what you will be studying, providing an overview of education theory, policy and practice. In years 1 and 2 you will also choose a specialist area of learning from: Art and Design; Drama; English and Literacy; Geography and History; Maths and Numeracy; Music; Physical Education; Religious Education; or Science and Technology.

### EDUCATION STUDIES

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

- Literacy and Communication
- Mathematics and Numeracy
- ICT in the Primary Classroom
- Reading and Writing
- Learning and Assessment in Diverse Classrooms
- Language and Learning
- Education Research
- Children with Special and Additional Needs

### CURRICULUM STUDIES

Curriculum Studies provides the necessary knowledge and understanding of all areas of the Northern Ireland Curriculum, helping to develop your

intellectual, practical and transferrable skills. Typical modules include:

- Arts
- Physical Education
- Religious Education and Personal Development and Mutual Understanding (PDMU)
- World Around Us

### PROFESSIONAL PLACEMENTS

Each year you will spend 7-9 weeks in a range of school or educational settings, gaining experience in Foundation Stage, Key Stage 1, Key Stage 2 and alternative education settings. In year 4, you will undertake an additional 2 week 'alternative placement' with one of the College's partner organisations.

### HOW WILL I STUDY?

In addition to lectures, tutorials, workshops and individual/group projects, you will undertake an extensive programme of school-based professional placements. In year 3, you will also have the opportunity to spend a semester studying abroad at one of our partner universities worldwide. In Year 4, you will conduct research and complete a dissertation on a topic that you are passionate about.

### WHO WILL BE TEACHING ME?

In College and on your school-based professional placements, you will be taught, assessed and supported by an exceptional team of internationally recognised, research-informed and

experienced practitioners. As a small, specialist institution, you get to know your tutors and they get to know and support you to become a shaper of education.

### 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.

### CAREER OPTIONS

Although most BEd graduates are interested in pursuing careers in teaching and education-related fields, many use their transferable skills to develop careers in a wide range of other sectors including:

- Schools
- Youth Services
- Charitable and Third Sector
- Social Work and Community Development
- Educational Centres
- General Management
- Local Government
- Varied graduate programmes





# BEd (HONS) POST-PRIMARY EDUCATION WITH QTS

It is no secret that a good education has the power to inspire individuals and transform lives. 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.

Effective teachers need to be visionaries, lifelong learners, leaders, communicators, collaborators, partners, innovators, creative thinkers, problem solvers, adaptors and role models. Our BEd Post-primary courses are designed to develop you as an educational professional and reflective practitioner, and equip you to take on the challenges of working with young people.

## BED(HONS) POST-PRIMARY WITH QTS

### PATHWAYS

There are four Post-primary main subject pathways available:

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

### HOW WILL I STUDY?

In addition to lectures, tutorials, workshops and individual/group projects, you will undertake an extensive programme of school-based professional placements. In year 3, you will also have the opportunity to spend a semester studying abroad at one of our partner universities worldwide. In Year 4, you will conduct research and complete a dissertation on a topic that you are passionate about.

### PROFESSIONAL PLACEMENTS

Every year you will spend 7-9 weeks in a range of school or educational settings, gaining experience in both primary and secondary/grammar schools. In year 4, you will undertake an additional 2 week 'alternative placement' with one of the College's partner organisations.

### WHO WILL BE TEACHING ME?

In College and on your school-based professional placements, you will be taught, assessed and supported by an exceptional team of internationally recognised, research-informed and

experienced practitioners. As a small, specialist institution, you get to know your tutors and they get to know and support you to become a shaper of education.

### 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.

### CAREER OPTIONS

Although most BEd graduates are interested in pursuing careers in teaching and education-related fields, many use their transferable skills to develop careers in a wide range of other sectors including:

- Schools
- Youth Services
- Charitable and Third Sector
- Social Work and Community Development
- Educational Centres
- General Management
- Local Government
- Varied graduate programmes





**QUALITY ASSURED**

QAA assessment reaffirmed the highest quality of our teaching and learning.



# BUSINESS AND ENTERPRISE

Entry Requirements: BBC      Duration: 4 years      UCAS Code: N1X3



## WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Business and Enterprise is 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 teaching methods for 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. The course 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.

In addition to a broad range of education studies modules, subject specific modules studied on the course include:

- Enterprising Ideas
- Financial Accounting
- Contemporary Business
- Managing People
- Operations Management
- General Business Decision Making Literacy and Communication

In addition to your Business and Enterprise main subject, you will study a subsidiary subject chosen from:

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



## STUDY ABROAD

32% of our students  
enjoy a study abroad  
experience.

# MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE

Entry Requirements: BCC      Duration: 4 years      UCAS Code: XG10



## WHAT WILL I STUDY?

On the Mathematics and Science programme, you will learn how to share your enjoyment of Mathematics and Science amongst future learning leaders. This course will allow you to study Mathematics and Science jointly without a second subject. Alternatively you can choose to incorporate Computing.

Mathematics and Science is presented as a dynamic subject with an emphasis on flexibility of mind and imaginative teaching methods.

In addition to a broad range of education studies modules, subject specific modules studied on the course include:

- Science Education
- Algebra for Teaching
- Mechanics
- Applied Science Education
- Topics in Teaching Mathematics





# RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Entry Requirements: ABB

Duration: 4 years

UCAS Code: XVC6



## 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. You will learn how to teach world religions and consider the contemporary debates relating to Religious Education on the Post-primary curriculum. Students on the course come from a range of religious backgrounds or of no religion.

In addition to a broad range of education studies modules, subject specific modules studied on the course include:

- Biblical Studies
- Eastern Religions
- Early Church History
- Philosophy of Religion and Ethics
- Theology

In addition to your Religious Studies main subject, you will also study a subsidiary subject from:

- Computing
- English
- Mathematics
- Physical Education

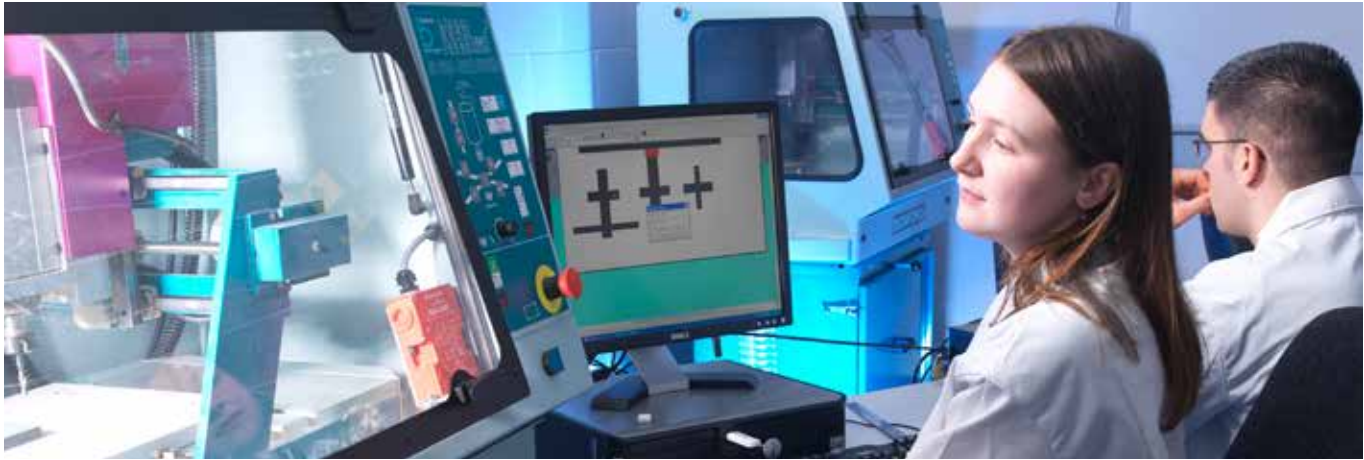


# TECHNOLOGY AND DESIGN

Entry Requirements: BCC

Duration: 4 years

UCAS Code: XW12



## WHAT WILL I STUDY?

On the Technology and Design course you will use new technologies and modern ways of thinking and learning to enable you to become a learning leader and 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.

In addition to a broad range of education studies modules, subject specific modules studied on the course include:

- Manufacturing, Materials and Processes
- Systems
- Technology and Design Education: Computer Aided Design and Manufacture
- Advanced Manufacturing, Materials and Processes
- Technology and Design Education: Product Analysis, Design and Manufacture
- Systems Design: Mechatronics

In addition to your Technology and Design main subject, you will study a subsidiary subject from:

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





# BSc HEALTH, PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND SPORT

Improving physical activity rates, active lifestyles and health promotion is a strategic priority that impacts the social and economic wellbeing of communities and societies as a whole. A multidisciplinary programme, the Health, Physical Activity and Sport degree is aimed at those looking for a rewarding career working with young people and wider communities in this growing and important sector. The course explores the sociological, psychological and scientific concepts of health, nutrition, physical activity and sport. Through a blended approach of academic study, student practical sessions and work-based placements, this course will equip you with the skills, knowledge and experience to translate your learning to individual, community and wider societal settings.



## BSc HEALTH, PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND SPORT

Entry Requirements: BCC

Duration: 3 years

UCAS Code: LL34

### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

The BSc (Hons) Health, Physical Activity and Sport programme 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. The 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.

### HOW WILL I STUDY?

In addition to lectures, tutorials, workshops and individual/group projects, you will undertake a programme of relevant work placements. Students are encouraged to participate in 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 area of health, physical activity and sport.

### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Examples of the type of modules studied on the course include:

- Sport and Exercise Psychology
- Exercise Science

- Sociology of Health and Sport
- Body Systems
- Contemporary Issues in Health
- Sports Nutrition
- Sport in the Community
- Health Promotion and Professional Practice

### WHO WILL BE TEACHING ME?

In college and on your professional placements, you will be taught, assessed and supported by an exceptional team of internationally recognised, research-informed 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.

### HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

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

### CAREER OPTIONS

The transferable skills developed on the Health, Physical Activity and Sport degree enable students to pursue careers in a wide range of sectors and settings including:

- Health Promotion
- Physical Activity and Sport
- Community Development
- Educational Centres and Welfare
- Youth Services and Coaching
- Physical Education (Primary and Post-primary)





# BA EARLY CHILDHOOD STUDIES

The Early Childhood Studies programme 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 provides a broad understanding of how young children think, learn and develop. The programme covers three core themes - Understanding the Child, The Child in the Learning Context and The Child in the Family and Community - taking account of the latest developments within the field of early childhood and reflecting the multi-professional and multidisciplinary nature of contemporary early childhood services.



## BA EARLY CHILDHOOD STUDIES (FULL-TIME)

Entry Requirements: BBB

Duration: 3 years

UCAS Code: X310

### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Examples of the type of modules studied on the course include:

- Children's Learning Intentions
- Social and Developmental Learning
- Childhood in Society
- Children's Health and Wellbeing
- Partnership with Children & Families
- Children in the Early Years Environment
- Management, Leadership & Professionalism
- Early Years Curriculum (3-8 Years)
- Curiosity and the Child

### HOW WILL I STUDY?

In addition to lectures, tutorials, workshops and individual/group projects, a substantial part of the teaching and learning process is delivered through your work-based placements. During your studies, you will have the opportunity to gain experience 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 in year 2, living and studying at one of the College's Erasmus+ partner universities.

### WHO WILL BE TEACHING ME?

In College and on your work-based professional placements, you will be taught, assessed and supported by an exceptional team of internationally



recognised, research-led and experienced lecturers and tutors. As a small, specialist institution, you get to know your tutors and they get to know you and support you in becoming a highly qualified practitioner.

### HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

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

### CAREER OPTIONS

The BA (Hons) Early Childhood Studies degree forms a sound basis for career progression in the statutory, voluntary and private sectors of early years provision including:

- Early Years Organisations
- Nursery and Primary Schools
- Centres Associated With The Early Years Organisation
- Toy and Book Libraries
- Creches
- Parent and Toddler Groups
- Childcare And Family Centres



## BA EARLY CHILDHOOD STUDIES (PART-TIME)

Entry Requirements: BBB

Duration: 4 years

Apply directly to Stranmillis

### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Examples of the type of modules studied on the course include:

- Children's Learning Intentions
- Social and Developmental Learning
- Childhood in Society
- Children's Health and Wellbeing
- Partnership with Children & Families
- Children in the Early Years Environment
- Management, Leadership & Professionalism
- Early Years Curriculum (3-8 Years)
- Curiosity and the Child

### HOW WILL I STUDY?

In addition to lectures, tutorials, workshops and individual/group projects, a substantial part of the teaching and learning process is based around your professional work-based placements. During your studies, you will be expected to maintain access to young children (between 0 and 8 years) in a structured setting through employment or negotiated access. It is advised that this should be for a period of no less than 7 – 10 hours per week.

### WHO WILL BE TEACHING ME?

The part-time BA Early Childhood Studies course is offered at Stranmillis University College and South West

College in Omagh. You will be taught, assessed and supported by an exceptional team of internationally recognised, research-led and experienced practitioners.

### HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

A variety of assessment methods are used, including critically reflective essays, individual and group projects and presentations, written examinations, assessment on placement, and a final project.

### CAREER OPTIONS

The BA (Hons) Early Childhood Studies degree forms a sound basis for career progression in the statutory, voluntary and private sectors of early years provision including:

- Early Years Organisations
- Nursery and Primary Schools
- Centres Associated With The Early Years Organisation
- Toy and Book Libraries
- Creches
- Parent and Toddler Groups
- Childcare And Family Centres







# PGCE EARLY YEARS WITH QTS

With the increased value on playful approaches to teaching and learning, the course provides you with an in-depth knowledge and understanding of how a play-based curriculum can be effectively translated into practice. Emphasis is placed on preparing you to deliver a developmentally appropriate curriculum which builds on children's needs and interests and allows playful approaches to be infused across the entire early learning experience.

The course also aims to enhance understanding of the integrated nature of children's learning, focusing on how the six key areas of learning at Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 can be taught through the use of themes.

## PGCE EARLY YEARS WITH QTS

Entry Requirements: 2:1 Degree

Duration: 1 year

Apply directly to Stranmillis

### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

The course is of thirty-six weeks duration, beginning in early September and lasting until late June. Half of the course is based in the University College and the other half in schools. Both aspects of the course have been designed to complement each other and to contribute to the development of professional competence.

The course consists of 4 modules:

- Implementing a Play-based Curriculum
- Teaching the Key Stage 1 Primary Curriculum
- Professional Experience 1
- Professional Experience 2

### HOW WILL I STUDY?

In addition to seminars, tutorials, workshops and individual/group work, at least eighteen weeks are spent obtaining practical teaching experience. At the outset of the course, students will spend a short period of time in SureStart centres with 2-3 year old children. The initial assessed placement is spent in a nursery setting towards the end of October, lasting for a period of five weeks. An additional five weeks in January/February is spent in a Foundation Stage classroom (i.e. Year 1 or 2 in a primary school) and a further 6 weeks spent in a Key Stage 1 classroom (i.e. Year 3 or 4 of a primary school) in April/May.



Students will then get the opportunity to spend two weeks in an additional alternative educational setting of their choice in Northern Ireland. A small number of students will also get the chance to undertake their final two week placement in a European setting. Students will spend every Monday in schools for observation purposes.

### WHO WILL BE TEACHING ME?

In College 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.

### HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

The course is assessed wholly by course work and continuous assessment, including the assessment of practical teaching.



# FOUNDATION HEALTH, PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND SPORT

The Foundation Degree in Health, Physical Activity and Sport is a two year, full-time course delivered at Belfast Met. The programme consists of 12 compulsory modules and a 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.



## FOUNDATION DEGREE – HEALTH PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND SPORT

Entry Requirements: BC

Duration: 2 years

UCAS Code: 52L7



### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Examples of the type of modules studied on the course include:

- Physical Activity, Lifestyle and Wellbeing
- Physical Activity and Sport for Specific Groups
- Introduction to Management Health, Physical Activity and Sport
- Fitness Testing and Training
- Introduction to Health, Sport and Exercise Psychology
- Anatomy and Physiology for Sport and Health
- Applied Health, Sport and Exercise Psychology Event Management

### HOW WILL I STUDY?

In addition to lectures, tutorials, workshops and individual/group projects, you will undertake a period of work placement.

### WHO WILL BE TEACHING ME?

You will be taught, assessed and supported by an exceptional team of experienced practitioners. The staff are supported by a Course Consultative Committee which includes representatives from a range of health and sport sectors.

### HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

A variety of assessment methods are used including case studies, assignments, time constrained assessments and oral presentations. Students also get the opportunity to volunteer at live sporting events.

### CAREER OPTIONS

The transferable skills you develop on the course, together with extensive hands-on professional placements, enable students to pursue careers in a wide range of sectors and settings including:

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



# FOUNDATION EARLY CHILDHOOD STUDIES

The Foundation Degree in Early Childhood Studies is designed to provide you with specialist knowledge and understanding of working with 0-8 year olds. The Early Childhood Studies Foundation Degree focuses on the key theories, concepts and application of working practices and skills required to work with this age group in a variety of Early Years settings. A varied programme of professional placements complement and support your classroom learning. Graduates who achieve the desired academic standard may be eligible for progression to year 2 of the BA (Hons) Early Childhood Studies degree at Stranmillis University College.



## FOUNDATION DEGREE – EARLY CHILDHOOD STUDIES

Entry Requirements: CC

Duration: 2 years full-time  
3 years part-time

UCAS Code: LX53

This course is available at Belfast Metropolitan College, North West Regional College (Londonderry / Derry) Northern Regional College (Ballymena and Newtownabbey), South Eastern Regional College (Lisburn), South West College (Omagh) and Southern Regional College (Newry). For further information, please contact your nearest Regional College.

### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Examples of the type of modules studied on the course include:

- Child Development
- Acquisition of Language and Communication Skills
- Learning through Play
- Safeguarding Children
- Developing Skills and Strategies for Managing Children's Behaviour
- Working with Children with Additional Needs
- Anti-Discriminatory Practice and Inclusion in the Early Years Environment
- Working with Babies 0-3 Years

### HOW WILL I STUDY?

In addition to lectures, tutorials, workshops and individual/group projects, you will undertake a period of work placement.

### WHO WILL BE TEACHING ME?

You will be taught, assessed and supported by an exceptional team of experienced practitioners both in College and whilst on placement.

### HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Modules are assessed through a combination of assignments, presentations and exams as well as placement reports.

### CAREER OPTIONS

An Early Childhood Studies degree provides the essential knowledge and experience for those working with young children in a variety of establishments including:

- Early Years Organisations
- Nursery and Primary Schools
- Centres Associated With The Early Years Organisation
- Toy and Book Libraries
- Creches
- Parent and Toddler Groups
- Childcare And Family Centres

**Note:** Applications to the full-time degree are made through UCAS. Applications to the part-time degree are made directly to the relevant Regional College. Campuses may vary.





# M-LEVEL STUDY

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.



## M-LEVEL STUDY

### MODULE EXAMPLES:

- International Perspectives on Bullying
- Safeguarding Children and Young People
- Advanced Teaching, Learning and Assessment
- Critical Perspectives on Disadvantage
- Wellbeing in the Early Years
- Quality Pedagogy
- Child Development
- Factors Affecting Literacy 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 - POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATE AUTISM

This Postgraduate Certificate in Education: Autism Studies is being offered by Stranmillis University College and will be delivered in partnership with Middletown Centre for Autism. This is a one-year course for educational professionals and consists of three modules each worth 20 CAT Points.

### MASTER OF EDUCATION - SEN LITERACY SPECIALIST OPTION (MED)

The 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 University College 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.





# APPLICATIONS AND ADMISSIONS

## HOW TO APPLY

Applications for full-time undergraduate courses are made through the Universities and Colleges Admission Service (UCAS). Application for the BA Early Childhood Studies (part-time) and PGCE Early Years are made directly to Stranmillis University College.

**Institution code name: SUCB**

**Institution code: S79**

## WHEN TO APPLY

Applications made through UCAS for 2021 entry open on 1 September 2020. The closing date for receipt of applications made through UCAS is 15 January 2021 (18:00). The closing date for receipt of application forms for 2021 entry to the BA Early Childhood Studies (part-time) is 1st March and PGCE Early Years is 1st February.

## ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

At minimum, entrants must be able to satisfy the general entrance requirement of Queen's University. A-level entry requirements for each course are outlined in the relevant course pages. 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..

## ENHANCED ACCESSNI CHECK

It is a requirement that applicants who are accepted onto all undergraduate degrees and the PGCE Early Years programme at Stranmillis University College undergo an enhanced AccessNI check. This is administered by the University College and carried out by AccessNI. Please note that for full-time BA and BEd students this check is carried out at the beginning of first and third year.

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
3. Participation in an academic and social setting and the university's responsibility to ensure a safe and neutral environment.

## DEFERRED ENTRY

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

## MATURE STUDENTS

Stranmillis University College 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 and Open University credits.

## DISABILITY, MEDICAL CONDITION OR SPECIAL NEED

Stranmillis University College 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 University College 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 on **(028) 9038 4510** or email: **disabilityservices@stran.ac.uk**

## 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.

## ACCURACY

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. 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).

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS

When you are offered a place on an undergraduate or postgraduate taught course delivered at the University College you will be notified of the terms and conditions between the University College and students on our taught programmes of study. When you accept an offer of a place on a programme at the University College, a contract is formed between you and the University College on the basis of the terms and conditions.

You should read the terms and conditions carefully before accepting any offer. On the day you accept an offer from the University College the contract will be formed and a 14-day cooling-off period will begin.

## ADMISSIONS PROCESS - BED AND BA (FULL-TIME) PROGRAMMES

Academic Registry receives applications directly from UCAS. Applications are considered on the basis of the information provided. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that complete detail is provided. All applications must contain a reference otherwise they will not be considered. All fully completed applications submitted by the normal closing date of 15 January are given equal consideration. Applications received after this date will not be considered.

## STEP 1 – REVIEW OF ACADEMIC PROFILE

All applicants must have a minimum C grade in GCSE English and Mathematics (and Science for some courses, see page 33 for full GCSE requirements). If an applicant is attempting to achieve the GCSE subject requirements in the year of application, this must be demonstrated in the UCAS application. Please note that Level 2 Essential Skills Numeracy and Application of Number is not acceptable in lieu of GCSE Mathematics. Level 2 Essential Skills Communication is acceptable in lieu of GCSE English.

An unsuccessful decision will be processed against an application that does not meet the GCSE requirements.

Applicants that have already completed A-levels (or equivalent level 3 qualifications) but do not precisely meet or fall slightly below the entry requirements, may still be shortlisted for interview, but will not initially receive an offer. Such applicants may be reconsidered in August, assuming required interview score has been achieved and depending upon availability of places.



# APPLICATIONS AND ADMISSIONS

## STEP 2 – REVIEW OF UCAS PERSONAL STATEMENT

All applicants who meet the initial academic criteria will have their personal statement reviewed by a member of staff in Academic Registry.

A personal desire and motivation for teaching (BEd) or working with young children (BA) must be evident in your personal statement. You will be required to demonstrate this by providing examples of working with children in a structured environment, preferably in a nursery, primary or post-primary school classroom setting. An unsuccessful decision will be processed for any applicant that does not demonstrate this evidence in their personal statement.

## STEP 3 – INTERVIEW AND PRESENTATION

Applicants that pass the first two steps of the process will be invited to take part in an interview and presentation. Applicants will be notified of their interview date at least one week beforehand. You will also be provided with the presentation topic at this time.

Interviews are held on various dates in February and March. The interview will be conducted by a panel of two, normally comprising a member of academic staff from Stranmillis University College and a current/retired education professional. The presentation will be followed by a short interview during which the interviewers will ask you a number of set questions.

The interview, including the presentation, will last approximately 20 minutes. Both the interview and the presentation are scored out of 20 giving a total possible score of 40.

## STEP 4 – OFFERS

Offers are made on the basis of ranked interview and presentation score and verification of qualifications. Academic Registry aims to have offers processed on UCAS before the 31st of March, however, the final UCAS deadline for 'on time' applications is 2nd May.

## ADMISSIONS PROCESS - BA EARLY CHILDHOOD STUDIES (PART-TIME)

For the BA Early Childhood Studies (part-time) degree, Step 3 – Interview and Presentation is replaced by a Group Presentation.

## GROUP INTERVIEW

Applicants who pass the first two steps of the process will be invited to take part in a group interview. Applicants will be notified of their interview date at least one week beforehand. You will also be provided with the presentation topic at this time.

BA Early Childhood Studies (part-time) group interviews will take place in May 2021. The interviews will be conducted by a panel of two academic staff from Stranmillis University College. All entrants to the part-time degree must be able to demonstrate that they can gain access to young children in a

structured setting either through employment or negotiated access. It is advised that this should be for a period of no less than 7 -10 hours per week.

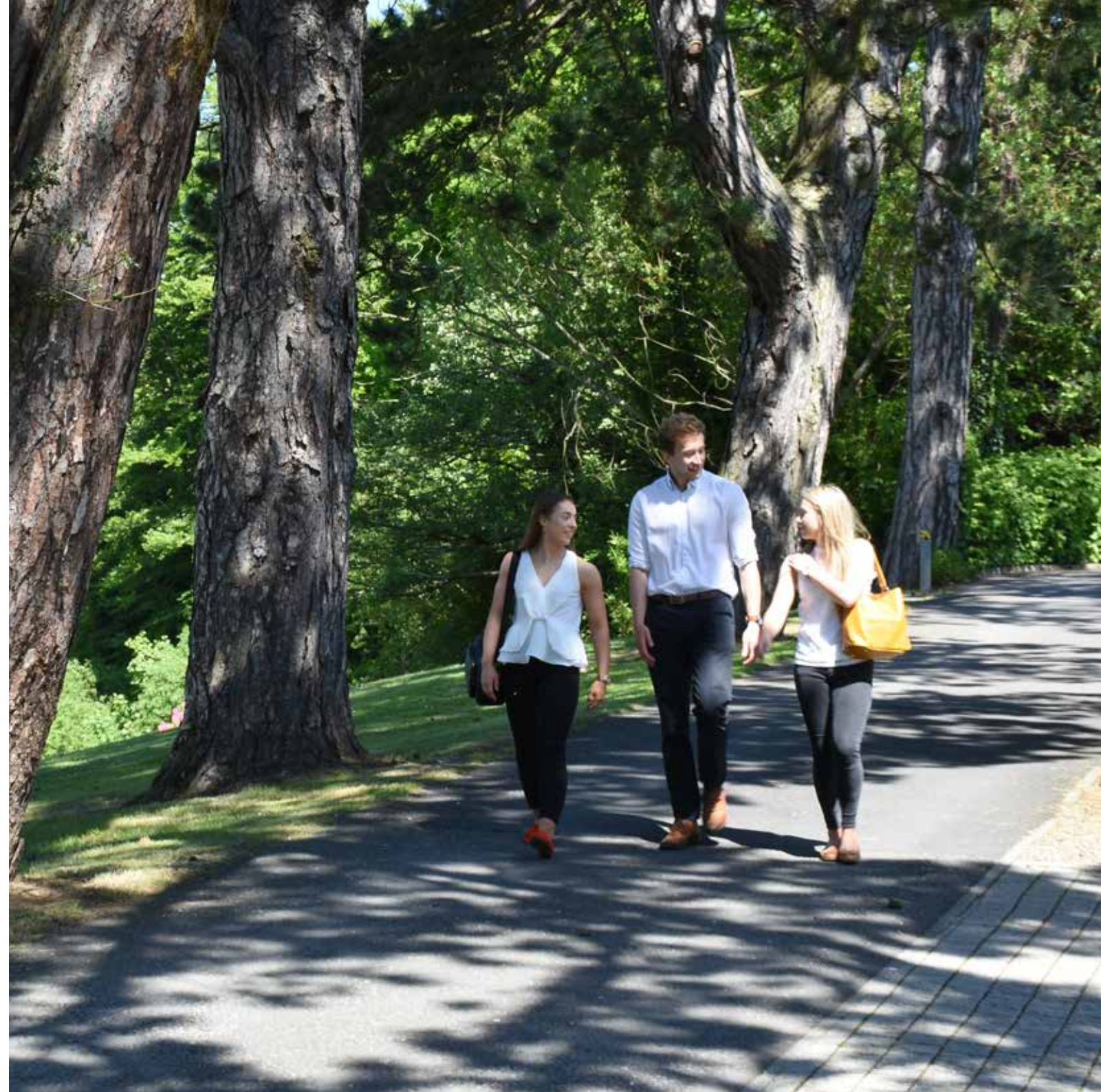
Candidates interested in Early Childhood Studies should note that The BA Early Childhood Studies (full-time) degree is very popular and each year the number of applicants greatly outweighs the number of places available. However, the four-year BA (Hons) Early Childhood Studies (part-time) degree programme is not subject to restricted numbers.

## ADMISSIONS PROCESS - BSC HEALTH, PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND SPORT

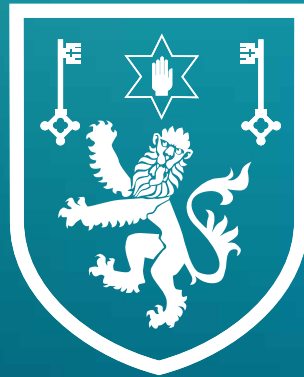
Applicants should note that there is no interview and presentation stage to the admissions process for the BSc Health, Physical Activity and Sport degree. An applicant's GCSE/AS-level profile is taken into account when deciding on whether or not to make conditional offers.

## ADMISSIONS PROCESS - FOUNDATION DEGREES

Applications for the full-time Foundation Degree Early Childhood Studies are made via UCAS. Applications for the part-time option should be made directly to the relevant Regional College. Applications for the Foundation Degree Health, Physical Activity and Sport are made via UCAS.







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