

## INTRODUCTION

For almost 100 years, Stranmillis University College has been shaping education, unlocking and maximising the potential of pupils and teachers and building better futures for all through the provision of research-led and informed teaching and learning.

The College has a strong ethos and reputation for shared education, diversity and mutual understanding and the teaching of religious education. Working closely with St Mary's University College, we are delighted to be able to offer the Certificate in Religious Education.

With in-depth study in key areas of the Old Testament, New Testament, Theology and Catechetics, the Certificate in Religious Education will give students a theological and biblical literacy that will help develop a deeper understanding of religious education in schools.

What you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

2 Timothy 3:14-15



### STRANMILLIS UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

Stranmillis Road  
Belfast  
BT9 5DY  
Northern Ireland  
United Kingdom

T: +44 (0)28 90381271  
[www.stran.ac.uk](http://www.stran.ac.uk)



STRANMILLIS  
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

A College of Queen's University Belfast

## CERTIFICATE IN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

HOLY BIBLE



St Mary's  
University College  
Belfast  
A College of Queen's University

[stran.ac.uk](http://stran.ac.uk)

## WELCOME

At Stranmillis University College, we deliver high quality teaching and learning to students from all faiths and community backgrounds, who learn with and from each other. Collaboration and partnership is a key element of our educational strategy and we have developed a strong ethos and reputation for shared education, diversity and mutual understanding and the teaching of religious education. We are therefore delighted, in partnership with St. Mary's University College, to be able to offer the Certificate in Religious Education to students enrolled on our BEd. programmes.

A pre-requisite for a permanent teaching position in a maintained primary school, the Certificate in Religious Education is validated by the Church Authority and provides a strong foundation for students to develop a mature understanding of the faith and a deep commitment to the values of Catholic Education.

**Professor Jonathan Heggarty**  
Principal, Stranmillis University College

**Professor Peter Flinn**  
Principal, St. Mary's University College



The Certificate in Religious Education is a prerequisite for a permanent teaching position in a maintained primary school.

Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.

**Proverbs 22:6**



## PURPOSE

The Certificate in Religious Education is a pre-requisite qualification for anyone applying for a permanent teaching position in a maintained primary school. A three-year course that may be taken alongside any BEd programme, The Certificate in Religious Education offered at Stranmillis University College is validated by St. Mary's University College and approved by the Catholic Church Authority.

## COURSE STRUCTURE

The Certificate programme is delivered through lectures aimed at developing an understanding of key aspects of church teaching and tutorials designed to familiarise students with the RE programmes used in maintained schools and assist them in preparing appropriate teaching materials. It also includes opportunities to put the learning into practice in school placements.

The Certificate is assessed through a combination of examination, written assignments and an assessment of practical teaching skills during designated periods of school placement.

## APPLYING

The Certificate in Religious Education is open to all full-time students enrolled or accepted on primary or post-primary BEd courses at Stranmillis University College, irrespective of the main specialism being studied.

An outline syllabus is given below:

### OLD TESTAMENT

- Creation and the Fall
- The Patriarchs – Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Joseph
- Moses, the Exodus and the Covenant
- Prophetic teaching

### NEW TESTAMENT

- Introduction to the Gospels
- Teaching on the Kingdom of God
- The parables and miracles of Jesus
- Jesus and discipleship
- Jesus' death and resurrection
- The Holy Spirit and Pentecost
- The beginnings of the Church

### CATECHETICS

- The vocation of the Christian educator
- The history of catechetics and approaches today
- The Catholic Church's view on education
- Teaching the Sacraments in the classroom
- Faith development and religious education
- Developing an adult faith
- Prayer in the classroom
- Education for love
- Peace education
- The major themes and content of the main religious education programmes used in schools

### THEOLOGY

- The revelation of God
- Understanding Jesus – high and low Christology
- History of the Sacraments
- Understanding the nature of the Church
- Moral and social issues
- Prayer and worship
- The mystery of evil and suffering
- Understanding the Mass
- Other Christian denominations
- Celtic spirituality