

# ADMISSION TO THE PGCE COURSES

## Entry Requirements

### **Academic qualifications:**

The Cambridge PGCE is a highly academic course which is assessed at Masters' level, so we expect all PGCE applicants to hold, or expect to obtain, an honours degree with a First or Upper Second (2.1) classification. We **may** consider applicants with a 2.2 if they have an otherwise strong academic background, a supportive academic reference and are able to demonstrate other strengths in their application; however, if you do have a 2.2, please contact the PGCE Admissions Office before you apply so that we can give you carefully considered advice.

We cannot consider applicants who do not hold an honours degree or who obtained a 3<sup>rd</sup> class degree.

For the **Secondary PGCE**, your degree should be in your chosen subject specialism, or in a closely related subject, and we expect most applicants will hold three A-levels at grade B or above.

For the **Early Primary/General Primary PGCE**, we will accept applicants from any degree subject background, including psychology and childhood studies, but if your degree is not in a National Curriculum subject we would expect you to have some National Curriculum content in your A-levels. We expect most applicants will hold three A-levels at grade B or above.

All applicants must hold GCSE passes (minimum grade C) in English language and mathematics. Early Primary and General Primary PGCE applicants must also hold a GCSE pass (minimum grade C) in a mainstream science subject.

Applicants must hold the required GCSE passes **before** applying for the PGCE – it is not sufficient to have taken the examination and be awaiting results. If invited to attend an interview applicants will be asked to provide the original GCSE certificates or a Certified Statement of Results issued by the relevant exam board. These qualifications are in addition to your degree.

### **Equivalent qualifications:**

We will consider applicants holding overseas qualifications as long as they are equivalent to those described above. For an assessment of overseas qualifications contact [National Academic Recognition Information Centre for the United Kingdom \(NARIC\)](#).

If English is not your first language, you must hold an **Academic IELTS** qualification with a minimum score of 7 in each element.

If you do not hold GCSEs, we will accept O-levels or IGCSEs (grade C or above); CSE (grade 1); Scottish certificate of education (grade 3 or above); Irish leaving certificate (grade C at ordinary level or grade D at honours). We will also accept applicants who studied the International Baccalaureate. For applicants from the Republic of Ireland, Home Economics and Agricultural Science are not recognised as being a science subjects. Science studied up to Junior Certificate level is not sufficient.

Unfortunately, the City & Guilds/OCR Adult Literacy and Numeracy qualifications are **not** considered the equivalent of GCSEs. We also do not accept, or offer, equivalency tests.

If you hold a qualification not listed above, please contact the PGCE office for advice.