

Fitness to Practise Statement

1. Programme Name(s):

- Bachelor of Education in Languages
- Bachelor of Science in Mathematics and Computer Science
- Bachelor of Science in Physical Education
- Bachelor of Science with concurrent Teacher Education (Biology and Chemistry OR Physics OR Agricultural Science)
- Bachelor of Science with concurrent Teacher Education (Physical Sciences with Chemistry AND Physics)
- Bachelor of Technology (Education) in Materials & Architectural Technology
- Bachelor of Technology (Education) in Materials & Engineering Technology
- Professional Master of Education

2. Course Director(s): Ann-Marie Young, Academic Director of School Placement

3. Professional Fitness to Practise Requirements

School placement is a core part of all teacher education programmes at the University of Limerick. It involves a collaborative partnership between the University and the participating schools. Student teachers should be aware of the Code of Professional Conduct for Teachers, published by the Teaching Council, and are expected to act at all times in accordance with these Codes, which make explicit the core values underpinning the profession of teaching in Ireland.

Student teachers must be competent in their abilities to effectively plan and prepare lessons, implement lessons, and reflect on and assess their own teaching and the learning profile of each learner in classroom settings. They should also display the ability to involve themselves in the wider school community through participating in extra-curricular activities, working within subject departments or supporting particular school initiatives.

4. Professional Competencies

Competency	Description/justification of how the competency applies to the programme(s) listed above (add bullets as required)
a) Protection of the service user	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The student teacher must be aware of and act at all times in accordance with the Code of Professional Conduct for Teachers (Teaching Council).• The student teacher must recognise the rights of learners with whom they are working. At all times they will show a high regard for the personal safety, moral welfare and intellectual progress of learners.
b) Communication skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The student teacher must be able to communicate appropriately and effectively at all times with pupils, school management,

	<p>cooperating/mentor teacher, other school staff and university personnel.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The student teacher should seek advice from the principal and his/her staff, calling on their experience to make the school placement as useful and productive as possible.
c) Working within the scope of practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The student teacher will uphold the school policies and procedures when working with learners and will strive to maintain a positive learning environment.
d) Confidentiality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The student teacher should treat any personal student data and issues with confidentiality, where required. • Should any incident arise regarding child protection in the school, the student teacher should contact the Designated Liaison Person.
e) Managing risks and reporting concerns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The student teacher must pay attention to safety regulations governing the use of school equipment, swimming pools, gymnasias, workshops and laboratories. The safety of learners must be ensured at all times – for example, in relation to the working area, group work, equipment, activities, progression and individual differences. • The student teacher should report any concerns they have to the relevant person in charge and follow school policy in relation to health and safety matters.
f) Honesty and trustworthiness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In their work practices, the student teacher must embody the ethical values of respect, care, integrity and trust, as outlined in the Code of Professional Conduct for Teachers (Teaching Council).
g) Behaviour on and off campus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Throughout their school placement, the student teacher is required to behave in a professional manner both on and off the school campus.
h) Keeping appropriate records	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The student teacher is expected to teach/observe every class that is noted on his/her timetable. • The student teacher must have all relevant planning documentation prepared in advance of each class to be taught. • The student teacher is expected to keep appropriate records, where required, and to follow school procedure in terms of completing incident reports.

i) Include any additional competencies (i.e. profession-specific)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The student teacher needs to be in possession of sound professional judgement and be aware of and responsive to the impact of his/her actions on self and on others. • The student teacher should engage professionally with all stakeholders in schools and with all aspects of school life.
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5. Health Requirements

Professional settings and practice will generally require the student to maintain a level of good health to ensure the student and service users are not adversely affected by any health condition that may arise. As part of a general health protection, the University and/or the external placement provider may require students to undergo health screening or other forms of health assessment.

Students undertaking programmes with a vaccine and/or health requirement will be required to comply with the vaccination and/or health requirements of the University, as may be updated from time to time.

In addition, students undertaking programmes with an external placement will be required to comply with the vaccination and/or health requirements of the external placement provider, as may be updated from time to time.

All requirements are listed in the Table below.

Any restriction and supporting justification on students with disabilities enrolling on this programme and seeking to avail of accommodations provided by Disability Support Services should also be listed below in the table below.

<i>Vaccination and/or health requirements of the University in relation to this programme of study</i>	<i>Vaccination and/or health requirements of the external placement provider in relation to this programme of study</i>	<i>Restriction and supporting justification on students with disabilities enrolling on this programme</i>
None at present but may be updated from time to time.	None at present but may be updated from time to time.	None at present but may be updated from time to time.

Signed: _____ or _____

Course Director(s)

Associate Dean Academic Affairs