



University of  
Staffordshire



# EDUCATION, CHILDHOOD AND TEACHING

Your place  
of possibility

We are delighted to announce that Staffordshire University has rebranded to become University of Staffordshire. It reinforces our commitment to Staffordshire and beyond. Our brand evolution also heralds an exciting new future, with lots of new opportunities for our students.

## WELCOME TO EDUCATION, CHILDHOOD AND TEACHING

**Explore your talents and achieve real success on our courses dedicated to careers in teaching and education. Help children to develop their skills and grow socially and emotionally. Work with families and communities on education projects. And plan engaging lessons as you lead a class of pupils.**

As a student, you'll become part of our Institute of Education community, gaining experience through our strong links with schools and other organisations. You'll also have access to the latest research on what works in the classroom.

We offer next-level teaching, hands-on and personalised learning, and all the support you need. Your gateway to industry and beyond.





Bringing your place  
of possibility to life

# THIS IS YOUR PLACE

## TOP 5 FOR EDUCATION

Guardian University Guide 2025

## TOP 15 FOR EDUCATION TEACHING QUALITY

Times Good University Guide 2024

## £4.4M WOODLANDS DAY NURSEY AND FOREST SCHOOL

## SPECIALIST PATHWAYS

## PRACTICAL WORK PLACEMENTS

## JOIN OUR INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION COMMUNITY





# WHY CHOOSE UNIVERSITY OF STAFFORDSHIRE

Find your gateway to industry  
and a future full of possibilities.  
An amazing community,  
where amazing things happen.  
**All built around you.**



## Leading modern courses

Right from the beginning, we've been at the cutting edge of industries and driving change. Building a bridge between the classroom and real-world practice. Learn the skills for the future on our career-focused courses.

## Next-level teaching

We teach in the best way, not the old way. Pushing boundaries and using hands-on, personalised learning. Championing digital innovation, from CGI to games technologies. Immerse yourself in our simulation spaces, taking you from crime scene to courtroom or ambulance to operating theatre.

## Personalised support

Get all the support you need to achieve real success. Whether you have a worry about money, your studies, your mental health or a personal issue, we're here for you every step of the way.

## Gateway to careers

With our unique industry connections, you'll unlock your potential. Unleash your entrepreneurial skills as you take on projects, explore placements or exhibit your work at shows, and gain the skills for whatever comes next. You can even become a student consultant, marketing your expertise to employers.

## Inclusive community

Become part of our open, inclusive and welcoming community. An environment that's big on personality and full of character. A place where you'll feel empowered and inspired. Where everyone is valued and you can be you.

# OUR STUDENTS

“

**I really enjoyed being able to go on placements in a variety of settings and getting a feel for the career opportunities to follow after graduating.** ”

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**Amy Witton**

Early Childhood Studies

“

**The teaching on the QTS course takes a student-centred approach as the lecturers ensure that all the content is relevant and supports our time in placement.** ”

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**Bethan Longshaw**

Primary Education with QTS



# MEET THE EXPERTS



**AMANDA  
TAYLER**

Early Childhood  
Studies and  
Education Studies  
Course Leader

Amanda started at the University in 2015 and is currently teaching across all levels and awards on the education programmes. She is a member of the Staffordshire Early Years Professional Network and has a Masters in Early Childhood Studies. Her research has focused on children's language and communication challenges and the remediation of these difficulties. She is currently looking at transitions and the complexities of friendship in pre-school and reception-aged children.



**FRANCESCA  
BROWN-  
CORNWALL**

Lecturer

Fran is an Early Childhood Specialist and hybrid Psychology and Education researcher, fascinated by smiles, laughter and thinking. She is passionate about supporting a skilled, innovative and joyful workforce in childhood and educational services.



**CATHY  
RUTHERFORD**

Primary Education  
With QTS Course  
Leader

In her 25-year teaching career, Cathy has taught in a range of primary schools. She uses her experience to help the next generation of teachers become outstanding practitioners who will develop a love of learning in the children they teach. Her curriculum specialisms are maths, design technology and music.



**DR MIKE  
BURNITT**

Primary Education  
With QTS Course  
Leader

Following years in industry, Mike returned to higher education to become Course Leader for Primary Education with QTS. Mike completed his ITT in 1992 and has over 30 years' experience in primary education, working as a class teacher in Key Stages 1 and 2. He also has extensive experience of senior leadership within a variety of primary schools working within differing socio-economic circumstances.

# OUR COURSES

Course title	Award	UCAS Code	UCAS Offer	Duration in years
Early Childhood Studies	BA (Hons)	L590	104-112	3
Education Studies	BA (Hons)	X300	104-112	3
Primary Education with Qualified Teacher Status	BA (Hons)	X112	112-120	3





# OUR STUDENTS



**The staff at the school  
always made sure they were  
available and taught me how to  
be a professional. ”**



**Toni Wedgewood**

Education Graduate







# EARLY CHILDHOOD STUDIES

There are few more rewarding roles than helping children to develop new skills, grow socially and emotionally, and overcome challenges. You could become an early years specialist and make a difference to young lives with a degree in Early Childhood Studies. There's no better time to specialise in supporting children and their families.

**100% SATISFACTION  
WITH TEACHING**

National Student Survey 2023



**FIND OUT  
MORE ABOUT  
THE COURSE  
HERE**



## Why choose us...

- Fantastic university facilities, including our £4.4m Woodlands Day Nursery and Forest School.
- Develop specialist knowledge and skills with optional pathways in Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), Mental Health and Wellbeing or Education for our Sustainable World.
- Become an early years specialist, studying babies up to eight-year-olds, with a particular focus on pre-school children. You'll use teaching techniques, play therapy and other practical approaches to put theory into action.
- Build experience across a range of placements, with an opportunity to spend a summer or a year abroad. Typical settings include day nurseries, pre-schools, reception classes, children's centres, and voluntary community groups.
- Become part of our Institute of Education community, working with real families and community groups alongside experienced professionals.

## What you'll learn...

You'll develop a deep understanding of the factors which affect children's learning, health and wellbeing. The course will also cover the leadership and management of early years settings, what childhood looks like around the world, and early years policy.

### Module examples:

- Play and pedagogy with babies and young children
- Approaches to play therapy
- Children's voices
- Children, families and society
- Keeping children and young people safe in education

## What you could do next...

Popular career routes for our graduates include working in schools, nurseries, local authorities, health organisations and with charities. Many of our graduates have progressed onto postgraduate studies, including primary and early years teacher training. Others work as education welfare assistants, nursery managers or within social work teams.





# EDUCATION STUDIES

Whether working in a school, family learning setting or in the community, you can play a vital role in helping people to succeed. Your future could involve coaching and mentoring others, helping children or adults who have special educational needs, championing reading or maths projects, supporting vulnerable teenagers, or running outdoor activities.

**98% FOR ACADEMIC SUPPORT**

National Student Survey 2023



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## Why choose us...

- Fantastic university facilities, including our £4.4m Woodlands Day Nursery and Forest School.
- Develop specialist knowledge and skills with optional pathways in Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), Mental Health and Wellbeing or Education for our Sustainable World.
- Work across age ranges – from early years to post-16. The broad nature of the course means you can keep your options open for future careers.
- Put your skills into practice and immerse yourself in a team, working alongside children or adults, with work-based learning opportunities. Practical work experience combines with academic study to help you develop the skills needed for a career in education.
- Become part of our Institute of Education community, gaining experience through strong links with schools and organisations.

## What you'll learn...

You'll develop knowledge and understanding of the factors that impact on learner's holistic development and educational outcomes. We'll support you every step of the way and help you nurture your passion for helping others to learn.


### Module examples:

- Children, families and society
- Keeping children and young people safe in education
- The evolution of education
- Perspectives of learning and development
- Digital future of education

## What you could do next...

Many of our graduates enter teaching through PGCE or Schools Direct routes. Others work in specialist support roles in children's centres or schools and colleges, in educational administration and management, play work, learning support and more. Some progress to postgraduate study.





# PRIMARY EDUCATION WITH QTS

As a primary school teacher, you can have an impact on who and what children become. Through intensive training and academic study, you can go straight into your first job as a primary school teacher when you graduate. Choose a rewarding profession that makes a huge difference to young lives.



**FIND OUT  
MORE ABOUT  
THE COURSE  
HERE**



## Why choose us...

- Graduate as a primary school teacher with qualified teacher status (QTS) in just three years.
- Gain experience through placements in early years settings and schools, completing at least 133 days on placement by the end of your final year at university. As you progress into your final year of training, you will lead the class for most of the time.
- University sessions combine with school placements to put theory into practice. You'll learn through a combination of lectures, practical sessions, workshops and school-based placements.
- Become part of our Institute of Education community, learning from sector professionals with experience in a variety of education settings. You'll be supported by an academic mentor and the wider tutor team.
- Join guest lectures focused on the key elements connected to becoming an effective and inspirational primary teacher.

## What you'll learn...

During the course, you'll learn how to become an effective and inspirational primary teacher. We'll prepare you for your first teaching post, including detailed preparation for the application process and support with interview preparation.

### Module examples:

- Primary core curriculum
- Primary foundation curriculum
- Contemporary issues in primary education
- Professional studies – reflection and professional problem solving
- Inclusion and inclusive practice
- Safeguarding and child protection

## What you could do next...

Graduates with Qualified Teacher Status enjoy work in a range of educational roles and settings, receiving support within the Early Career Framework – a two-year package of structured training and professional development designed to help new teachers develop their practice, knowledge and working habits.





# WORK PLACEMENTS

**As an education student at University of Staffordshire, you'll have access to a range of high-quality placements across early years settings, schools and other learning environments. You'll have the chance to establish lifelong networks and be supported by employers within the industry.**

We work with numerous high performing early years settings and schools within the local area and in Birmingham, the Black Country, Shropshire, Manchester, Derbyshire and beyond, to give you real-world experience and enable you to make informed decisions about your career direction.

Our work placements let you explore how you see yourself and your role within a professional working environment. You will focus on how you work individually and in teams, and how you contribute to the aims, ethos and culture of the workplace.

Students studying on our Primary Education degree will undertake placements in schools to develop their teaching and create links between theory and practice.

During your placement, you'll be supported by a work-based supervisor within the setting and receive feedback on your performance and contribution.

We also work with international university partners to provide placement and work experience opportunities abroad. Previous locations have included Holland, Spain and China.



# IMPORTANT INFORMATION

## Subject to approval/validation

**We're always striving to deliver the most current and relevant degrees, both by creating new courses and regularly reviewing our current offering.**

Each time we make changes, the course goes through a rigorous approval process to ensure that it's the perfect fit for our students, employers and other relevant stakeholders.

Some of the courses inside this guide may be marked as 'subject to approval' or 'subject to validation',

but don't worry, this just means some of the details of the course won't have been finalised yet. As soon as new courses are approved and validated, up-to-date information will be provided on the online course pages at [www.staffs.ac.uk/courses](http://www.staffs.ac.uk/courses)

If you have been offered a place and there is a significant change to the course, or for any reason, the course doesn't run – we will contact you immediately and fully support you in finding the best suitable alternative.

At the time of printing in September 2024, the courses listed in this guide represent those we intend to offer for the 2024/2025 academic years. Very occasionally, however, we need to make changes to our courses, including their content and the way in which they are delivered. In some instances, courses can be discontinued or combined with other courses.

Reasons for withdrawing courses can include insufficient student numbers and courses not receiving the necessary accreditation or approval. Changes to course information may include operational and academic reasons.

If circumstances beyond our control mean we cannot provide particular educational services, all reasonable steps will be taken to minimise any disruption to those services. However, the University will have no liability for any loss or damage suffered by any prospect or student as a result.

As a prospective student of University of Staffordshire, it's your responsibility to ensure you have fully reviewed up-to-date course information before you apply,

and that your chosen course fully meets your requirements. You should also check the course still meets your requirements before accepting an offer to study with us.

Student satisfaction scores have been provided by Unistats and are correct at the time of going to print. For more information, visit: [discoveruni.gov.uk](http://discoveruni.gov.uk)

If we discontinue a course or programme and you're not happy with the alternative offered, or if a programme is changed and you're not happy with the changes, you'll be given the opportunity to withdraw from the programme. Up-to-date course information can be found on our website ([www.staffs.ac.uk](http://www.staffs.ac.uk)), or by calling us on **01782 294400**.

If you're offered a place at the University of Staffordshire, your offer will be subject to the University's Terms and Conditions of Offer. If you become a student of University of Staffordshire, you will enter a contract with us and be bound by our rules and regulations. These, too, may vary from time to time ([www.staffs.ac.uk/rulesandregs](http://www.staffs.ac.uk/rulesandregs)).





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## **TOP 5 FOR FIRST GEN STUDENTS**

The Mail University Guide 2025

## **TOP 10 FOR CAREER PROSPECTS**

Whatuni Student Choice Awards 2023

## **TOP 20 FOR FACILITIES**

Whatuni Student Choice Awards 2023

## **TOP 5 FOR SOCIAL INCLUSION**

The Times and The Sunday Times Good  
University Guide 2025

## **BEST EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION**

For Games - TIGA Games Industry Awards  
2024

## **TOP 20 IN THE ENGLISH SOCIAL MOBILITY INDEX**

LSBU and Higher Education Policy Institute  
2024

For more detailed information  
on courses or studying at  
University of Staffordshire visit:  
[www.staffs.ac.uk/undergraduate](http://www.staffs.ac.uk/undergraduate)

Find us on:  
[www.staffs.ac.uk/socialmedia](http://www.staffs.ac.uk/socialmedia)

