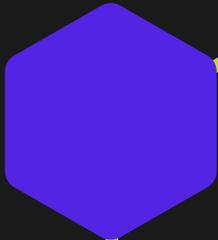




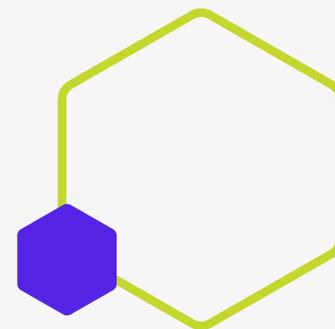
Curtin University

Graduate Diploma in Education ***Handbook***

Primary Major & Secondary Major



20
26



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Welcome

Kaya!

On behalf of the entire Curtin University School of Education community, it is my great pleasure to extend a warm welcome to you. We are delighted to have you as a part of our innovative and dynamic institution, and we look forward to embarking on a journey of learning, growth, and collaboration together.



The School of Education is committed to fostering an environment that nurtures intellectual curiosity, encourages critical thinking, and promotes the development of future leaders in the field of education.

Whether you are a new student, faculty member, or staff member, you are now an integral part of a vibrant community dedicated to excellence and equity in education. Our academic staff are experts in their respective fields and are dedicated to providing you with a rich and meaningful educational experience. We believe in the power of education to transform lives and communities, and we are excited to be a part of your educational journey.

Our school is not just a place of learning; it is a community that values diversity, inclusivity, and collaboration. We encourage you to engage with your peers, participate in extracurricular activities, and take advantage of the numerous resources available to you. Our goal is to empower you with the knowledge, skills, and experiences that will prepare you for success in your chosen field, and you will get the most out of it if you take the opportunity to engage with all the university has to offer.

If you ever have questions, concerns, or ideas to share, we are always happy to hear from you. Feel free to reach out to any member of our dedicated staff. We are here to ensure that your time at the School of Education is fulfilling, enriching, and memorable.

Once again, welcome to the Curtin University School of Education. We are thrilled to invite you into our community, and we look forward to supporting you in achieving your academic and professional goals.

Best regards,

Professor Jeffrey S. Brooks

Head of School

Curtin University School of Education

Curtin University acknowledges and pays respect to the Traditional Owners and Elders of this country and recognises the significant importance of their cultural heritage, values and beliefs and how these contribute to the positive health and wellbeing of the whole community.



About the Course

From the Course Coordinators

The Graduate Diploma offered by Curtin University is a one-year registered course to enable graduates to become teachers. Currently there is a teacher shortage and a demand to offer an accelerated program for people to enter the profession. If you have a desire to teach, this course might be for you.

To be enrolled in the course, you need to have completed a 3 or 4-year undergraduate degree and want to teach in either a primary or a secondary school. Primary teaching requires any 3 or 4-year undergraduate degree whereas Secondary teaching requires major study in your first degree aligning with school learning areas. In both cases the degree must be aligned with the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA).

The course comprises of 5 content-based units and 3 Professional Experience units where you will be assigned to a school. The whole course can be completed studying 2 units at a time across 4 consecutive study periods. There is also an accelerated version to finish in 3 study periods. On completion you can register to be a teacher through the Teachers Registration Board of WA (TRBWA). Whilst employed as a teacher you can, if you choose, complete a further 8 units to complete a Master of Teaching qualification.

Study the Curtin Graduate Diploma in Education in the Great Southern Region
<https://www.gsunicentre.edu.au/>

Study the Graduate Diploma in Education in the Pilbara/Kimberley region
<https://www.puc.edu.au/>



Keryn Sturrock
Primary
Course Coordinator



Fadi Maayah
Secondary
Course Coordinator



Primary Course

Enrolment Plan:

The Graduate Diploma in Education Primary Major allows you to teach in primary years 1-6.

EDUC5012

CP 25

Theories of Development and Learning

Study Period 1/Special Study Period 1

EDPR5011

CP 25

Primary Professional Experience 1: Planning for Writing

Study Period 1/Special Study Period 1

Placement: 10 Consecutive Days

EDPR5012

CP 25

Teaching Science in the Primary Years

Study Period 2/Special Study Period 2

EDPR5013

CP 25

Primary Professional Experience 2: Assessment and Reporting

Study Period 2/Special Study Period 2

Placement: 15 Consecutive Days

EDUC6063

CP 25

Primary Professional Experience 3: Using Data to Inform Teaching and Learning

Study Period 3/Special Study Period 3

Placement: 20 Consecutive Days

EDUC5031

Introduction to English: Reading

Study Period 3/Special Study Period 3

CP 25

EDPR5010

Teaching Number, Algebra, and Probability in the Primary Years

Study Period 4/Special Study Period 4

CP 25

EDUC5017

Creative Technologies

Study Period 4/Special Study Period 4

CP 25

*The above table is based on a full time study load, two units per study period enrolment in 2026.

An accelerated version of this course is available, please contact [Curtin Connect](#) for details and an enrolment plan.



Secondary Course

Enrolment Plan:

The Graduate Diploma in Education Secondary Major allows you to teach in secondary years 7-12.

EDSC5035

CP 25

Teaching in the Secondary School

Study Period 1/Special Study Period 1

EDSC5028

CP 25

Secondary Professional Experience 1: Planning

Study Period 1/Special Study Period 1

Placement: 10 Consecutive Days

EDSC5029

CP 25

Secondary Professional Experience 2: Assessment and Reporting

Study Period 2/Special Study Period 2

Placement: 15 Consecutive Days

Teaching Area Unit 1

CP 25

Curriculum and Instruction Lower Secondary

Study Period 2/Special Study Period 2

EDUC6062

CP 25

Secondary Professional Experience 3: Using Data to Inform Teaching and Learning

Study Period 3/Special Study Period 3

Placement: 20 Consecutive Days

EDUC5009

Pedagogies for Diversity

Study Period 3/Special Study Period 3

CP 25

EDUC5006

Creative Technologies

Study Period 4/Special Study Period 4

CP 25

Teaching Area Unit 1

Curriculum and Instruction Senior Secondary

Study Period 4/Special Study Period 4

CP 25

*The above table is based on a full time study load, two units per study period enrolment in 2026.

An accelerated version of this course is available, please contact [Curtin Connect](#) for details and an enrolment plan.



About Professional Experience

Our professional experience partnerships highlight the strength of our education degrees and reflect our desire to work collaboratively with the education community to develop highly sought-after graduates. You may be placed into the same setting (a primary or secondary school) for all professional experience placements, in order to develop skills and networks within a specific school/locality.

- Primary will include a range of year levels.
- Secondary will include years 7/8, 9/10, and 11/12 placements in the same school.

You may request placements in State, Catholic, or Independent schools. Curtin can also facilitate Regional, Rural, and Remote (RRR) placements.



Professional Experience Requirements

Placements are a required component of the course. You will be guided to obtain all the mandatory clearance documents. These need to be kept up to date.

These include:

- [Working with children check](#)
- Conflict of interest (if applicable for a placement)
- [Student Code of Conduct](#)
- All applicable [SONIA](#) forms
- For students studying in WA you will need a [Nationally Coordinated Criminal History Check](#) (NCCHC) –obtained through the Department of Education (please note this is NOT a National Police Clearance)

These forms are available in Sonia and you will receive a reminder to complete them.

[SONIA Student Guide](#)

SONIA is the software that supports you in managing your placement. You will use SONIA to upload documents, check your placement, and update information.



Professional Experience Placements

The Graduate Diploma in Education (Primary and Secondary Major) includes 45 supervised days of professional experience across three units, which enables you to meet a key requirement for registration as a teacher in Western Australia. Professional experience placements are a major component of your course and an opportunity for you to begin applying your theoretical understandings to classroom practice.

Primary Graduate Diploma

The Primary Graduate Diploma provides experiences across Years 1 - 6.

PE 1
MTP502
EDPR5000

Primary Professional Experience 1:
Planning for Writing

2 weeks

PE 2
MTP506
EDPR5001

Primary Professional Experience 2:
Assessment and Reporting

3 weeks

PE 3
MTC600
EDUC6062

Primary Professional Experience 3:
Using Data to Inform Teaching and Learning

4 weeks

Total number of days across the course - no fewer than 45

Secondary Professional Experience

The Secondary Graduate Diploma provides experiences across Years 7 - 12.

PE 1
MTS502
EDSC5028

Secondary Professional Experience 1:
Planning

2 weeks

PE 2
MTS504
EDSC5029

Secondary Professional Experience 2:
Assessment and Reporting

3 weeks

PE 3
MTC600
EDUC6062

Secondary Professional Experience 3:
Using Data to Inform Teaching and Learning

4 weeks

Total number of days across the course - no fewer than 45





Placement Support

Key Contacts for Professional Experience Placement

Primary Professional Experience Coordinators

Courtney Mackenzie

Felicia Tierney

Oswaldo Celenza

Secondary Professional Experience Coordinators

Shontelle Galvin

Mitchell Alco

Email: Professional.Experience@curtin.edu.au

Frequently Asked Questions

We have a range of useful [FAQs](#) to support you with your professional education experience.

Some Important Links for Information and Assistance

Enrolment

[Leave of Absence](#)

[Handbook](#)

[Course Switcher](#)

[Refunds & Remission of Fees](#)

[Curtin Policies](#)

Assessments

[Assessments Extensions](#)

[Appeal Against](#)

[Study Assist - Guild](#)

[Assessments & Student Progress Manual](#)

[Investigation & Discipline](#)



Preparing for your Course

Step 1: Register for classes <https://www.curtin.edu.au/students/connect/>

Step 2: Activate your [OASIS](#) account and download your Unit Outlines

Step 3: Review your unit outlines prior to the first day of class and plan your calendar for study

Step 4: Log into your [Blackboard](#) Units and take some time to understand how the units work and where to get assistance.

Step 5: Create an email signature that includes the following:

STUDENT NAME

Pre-service Teacher

Student Number

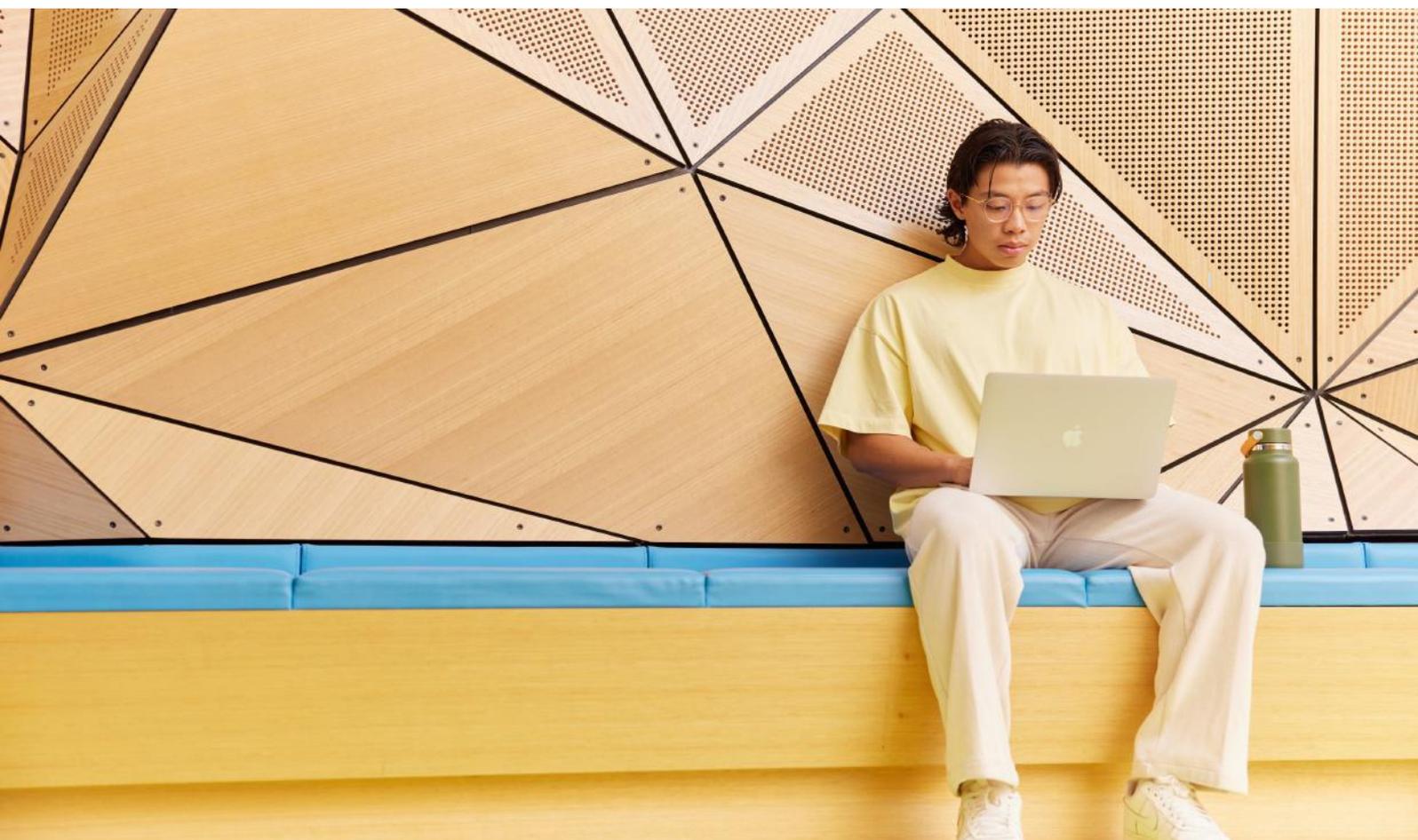
Course Name: Graduate Diploma of Education Primary/Secondary

OUA/Curtin Perth (Choose One)

Mobile I xxxx xxx xxx (optional)

Curtin Email I xxxxxxxxx@student.curtin.edu.au

Step 6: Review the [Inherent Requirements](#) for the course



Key Education Bodies

[Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership \(AITSL\)](#) provides national leadership for all Australian states and territories in promoting excellence in the profession of teaching and school leadership. AITSL develops the **[Australian Professional Standards for Teachers](#)**, which help you understand and develop your teaching practice and expertise across four career stages.

[Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority \(ACARA\)](#) is an independent statutory authority with a vision to inspire improvement in the learning of all young Australians through world class curriculum assessment and reporting. ACARA sets the Australian Curriculum, which your state or territory then uses to guide what you will teach.

[School Curriculum and Standards Authority \(SCSA\)](#) is responsible for kindergarten to year 12 curriculum assessment, standards and reporting for all Western Australian schools. SCSA is guided by the Australian Curriculum.

[Teacher Registration Board Western Australia \(TRBWA\)](#) is the body responsible for registration of teachers in Western Australia.

Western Australian schools include the following areas:

Government Schools (also refers to public or state schools). These are managed by our state government. **<https://www.education.wa.edu.au/>**

Non-government schools (also referred to as private schools). These are owned and managed by the **[Association for Independent Schools WA](#)** and the **[Catholic Education Western Australia](#)**.





Glossary of Terms

These are some terms you should be familiar with as part of an initial teacher education course.

Unit Related Terms

Blackboard: This is the learning management system that houses all of your unit resources, links to readings, activities, assessments, and discussion boards for the unit. It is also where you submit assessments and can view grades and feedback.

Unit Outline: Your unit outline is your official contract for the unit. The unit outline is the source of truth for what should be covered in your unit. If you find that your Unit Outline is different from the expectations on Blackboard, please contact your Unit Coordinator.

Unit Coordinator: Your unit coordinator is the manager of your unit. They may also be the person delivering instruction in the unit or that could be a tutor.

Tutor: A tutor works with the Unit Coordinator to deliver instruction in a unit and support cohorts of students in larger units.

Professional Experience Terms

SONIA: SONIA is the software that supports you in managing your placement. You will use SONIA to upload documents, check your placement, and update information. It is important that you maintain current documents on SONIA, as this can impact your placement.

Unit Coordinator: In a Professional Experience unit, your Unit Coordinator is the first point of contact for assessments and work associated with the submitted assessments.

Professional Experience Team: The professional experience or 'prac team' are available to help you with any issues you encounter while on your placement. They help with the organisation of your placement, the liaising with the school, and organising any additional support you may need while on your professional experience placement.



Glossary of Terms

Supervisor: Your supervisor is a Curtin staff member who will visit and support you and your mentor teacher while you are on placement. Once you have the details of your supervisor, please send them a professional email so that you can begin organising times to visit your classroom.

Mentor Teacher: This is the school-based teacher who you will work with throughout the placement. You are a guest in the mentor teacher's classroom and it is important that you meet with your mentor prior to the placement to understand their procedures and ways of working in the classroom. Your mentor will provide feedback on your lesson planning and instruction. They will also liaise with your supervisor to provide additional support.

Pre-visit days: These are the days prior to your placement when you will visit your assigned school. You will need to organise these with your mentor teacher. These are very important opportunities for you to get to know your mentor teacher and school. On a pre-visit day, you will meet your mentor, observe some classes, and learn about the rules of the school.

Inherent Requirements: Your course has inherent requirements, which have been referenced previously in this document. They set out the skills and responsibilities you have for meeting the professional requirements of teaching. You are responsible for meeting the inherent requirements for your course.





How to Apply

How to apply for the Graduate Diploma in Education

Step 1: Click **APPLY NOW** on the Course Page

Go to the Graduate Diploma in Education [course page](#) on Curtin's website. Click the 'Apply Now' button. You will be directed to the [Curtin Apply page](#). Click 'Apply direct' under the Postgraduate Application tile to proceed with your application.

Step 2: Register or Log In

Register a new account if you're a first-time applicant. Log in with your existing student ID if you've previously applied or studied at Curtin.

Step 3: Complete Application

Follow the prompts to fill in your personal details, select the Graduate Diploma in Education course and upload the relevant documentation (e.g., academic transcripts, English proficiency test results)

Step 4: Submit Application

Review and ensure all information is accurate. Submit your application for review by Curtin University

Curtin Connect

Curtin Connect is your hub for student service and support.

Contact Curtin Connect Online: Submit an enquiry using their [enquiry form](#). Select the option relevant to your enquiry and you will be directly connected to the area that can best assist you.

Phone: 1300 222 888 between 8:30 am to 4:30 pm AWST (Tuesday from 9:30 am), Monday to Friday.

If you are calling from any other country outside of Australia please call: +61 8 9266 5888.

Visit in person: If you still need to drop in, Curtin Connect is located in Building 102 on the Perth campus. We are open Monday to Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm AWST (Tuesday from 9:30 am).





Did you have any questions?

Questions about the course? We're here to help! Reach out anytime for assistance or clarification. Your success is our priority!

[**Learn more!**](#)

