Why choose this course?

The early years are a time of rapid growth and development. Early relationships, interactions and experiences provide the foundation for everything that follows - school, work, life. Early childhood teachers make a significant and lasting contribution to a child’s education and lifelong learning. You will be supported by specialist early childhood academics and will experience unique, real-world opportunities that prepare you to teach in early childhood.

We will ensure you can step into your career with confidence and continue to adapt to ongoing workforce changes and future opportunities. Some key inclusions in the course are:

- a deep understanding of early childhood learning and development
- curriculum and pedagogy knowledge and practices
- creating positive learning environments for young learners
- inclusion and diversity
- building positive relationships with parents, carers, communities and education stakeholders
- digital technologies
- entrepreneurial thinking and leadership
- innovation and creativity
- evaluation, research and assessment
- developing your professional identity
- global perspectives
- resilience.

Real-world learning

Professional experience

We have extensive partnerships and industry connections within the early childhood education and care field. These partnerships benefit you by connecting you with professionals working across early childhood contexts. We organise professional experience placements to give you the opportunity to experience a diverse range of placements including school classrooms, kindergartens and early childhood settings, supervised by practising professional educators.

These experiences allow you to develop your capabilities as you progress through the
course. You can complete your professional experiences in a variety of locations including South-East Queensland, rural and remote locations, and overseas. You will be required to undertake the majority of your supervised professional experience in Australian settings.

More real-world experience

QUT offers a range of opportunities to apply or volunteer for programs and experiences related to your course.

We also offer opportunities to gain valuable experience overseas. These diverse cultural experiences can enhance your personal development and cultural competence, and show employers that you can deal with change and have initiative, commitment, flexibility, and compassion. You can apply for opportunities to travel overseas for semester exchange or short-term international programs offered in conjunction with our global partners. Your overseas experience may contribute towards a unit in your course. You may also be eligible to receive funding for travel.

Learn from the best

You’ll learn from inspiring and innovative lecturers who are committed to providing a quality experience for the early childhood teachers of the future. Our lecturers have real-world experience in early childhood settings and schools and have a wealth of knowledge and advice to set you on the right path.

We’ve been recognised among the nation’s most outstanding teaching and learning programs. In the past nine years, QUT’s Faculty of Education has received eight Australian awards or citations for university teaching.

Entry requirements

Additional entry requirements

Pass the Initial Teacher Education Course (ITE) capabilities criteria.

Applicants must demonstrate possession of key competencies outlined by the Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL) as those attributes and motivations common to effective teachers.

You must complete an online questionnaire to demonstrate your motivation for and understanding of, the course and profession. In the questionnaire you will be asked to:

- Rank a series of potentially appropriate statement responses, in order of what you think is most to least important.
- Provide two x 500 word written statements addressing the categories and indicators as outlined on the Teacher Entry Fact Sheet.

QUT will send you details on how to complete the Initial Teacher Education Course (ITE) Capabilities Criteria questionnaire and submit your written statements after you have lodged an application.

Prerequisites

You must have passed four semesters at Australian high school level or equivalent:

- English; and
- at least one of Maths A, B or C; and
- at least one of Agricultural Science, Biology, Chemistry, Earth Science, Marine Science, Marine Studies, Physics or Science21.

Haven’t completed the prerequisite subjects?

You may be able to meet the prerequisite requirements if you’ve completed equivalent subjects, by completing bridging courses or the QUT Foundation program.

How to meet prerequisite requirements

Minimum English requirements

Students must meet the English proficiency requirements.

IELTS (International English Language Testing System)

| Overall  | 6.0 |
| Listening | 6.0 |
| Reading   | 6.0 |
| Writing   | 6.0 |
| Speaking  | 6.0 |

Real-world facilities

Experience the new Education Precinct at the heart of Kelvin Grove campus. With five levels dedicated to world-class teaching, you’ll have access to imaginatively designed face-to-face and online interactive learning spaces. A centrepiece of the Precinct is the Sphere, a digital LED globe suspended over two floors with a changing menu of innovative visual content.

To prepare you to be an inspiring, innovative and confident teacher for the future, you’ll be able to experiment and innovate in preparation for professional experiences in schools and early childhood centres. The spaces facilitate just the right balance of collaborative learning, interaction and quiet individual research.

Our expert teaching staff will inspire you to push boundaries, be curious and innovate. Qualities you will in turn foster in the students you teach.

Customise your degree

As this course qualifies you to teach to Year 3, you will undertake a primary specialisation as required by the Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership. This will enhance your skills in national areas of priority for a primary school setting. You can choose from:

- maths/numeracy
- science
- English/literacy.

In the third year of the course you can choose two option units in areas that you are interested in.

Career outcomes

As early childhood specialists, graduates are prepared to work as qualified teachers in early childhood education and care settings and kindergarten. The early childhood degree also prepares you to teach in Prep to Year 3 in primary school and can allow you to work across Australia and overseas.

Early childhood teachers develop a range of skills, knowledge and practices as a result of their own unique combination of work experiences and personal qualities. You will be empowered to shape your own career path and explore the many ways to make an impact. You can explore a range of careers, including:

- childcare centre or kindergarten director
- education policy and program implementation
- training and development roles in private and public organisations
- education and outreach roles
- developing products for the early childhood sector
- learning designer
- entertainment industry roles
- consultancy
- education research.

Professional recognition

This course meets professional teaching standards for the Australian Institute for
Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood)

Teaching and School Leadership and Queensland College of Teachers. Graduates are eligible to apply for teacher registration. Graduates are also recognised as qualified early childhood teachers under the Australian Children’s Education and Care Quality Authority framework.

Scholarships
You can apply for scholarships to help you with study and living costs.
- QUT Excellence Scholarship (Academic)
- QUT Sport Scholarship (Elite Athlete)
- Equity scholarships scheme

Advanced standing
Students admitted with a completed Diploma of Early Childhood Education and Care, or an equivalent accredited qualification, will be automatically granted credit (advanced standing) of 96 credit points.

Course requirements
Literacy and numeracy
You will need to successfully complete the National Literacy and Numeracy Test for Initial Teacher Education Students to graduate from the course. You are permitted three test attempts in total for each component as a student at QUT. If you fail three test attempts for each component, you will not be able to graduate. You are not eligible to apply for a place in the course if you have failed two test attempts for one or more components, at another institution. The test will assess your personal literacy and numeracy skills. QUT provides you with one reimbursement to cover the cost of the test.

For more information view additional course costs and requirements.