

MSc Inclusive Education – pathway for teachers of visually impaired learners

The Postgraduate Diploma is 120 credits:

All these courses are compulsory:

Inclusive Pedagogy (20 credits) +
Sources of Knowledge (10 credits) +
Conceptualising Research (10 credits) +
Inclusion of Children with Visual Impairment: Policy and Practice (20 credits)
Issues and Strategies (20 credits)
Assessment of pupils with visual impairment (20 credits)
Cerebral Visual impairment (20 credits)

+ These courses are available entirely online or face to face.

The Postgraduate Diploma Inclusive Education (visual impairment) is mapped onto the Scottish Government competences for teachers of visually impaired children:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2007/01/29163203/3>

It is also mapped to the English competences and the University has been approved by the English National College to run this award for English teachers from September 2016:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/480550/HI_MQ_Spec_NOV_2015_FINAL.pdf

Placement

Teachers of visually impaired children need to pass a placement observation to receive the Postgraduate Diploma and will submit a file. The placement is introduced in year 1 and it takes place in year 2.

The MSc in Inclusive Education is 180 credits made up of the courses for the Postgraduate Diploma and in addition two further courses:

Planning Research REDU11044 (10 credits)+
Dissertation ASL REDU11049 (50 credits)

Supervision

Your dissertation will be supervised by a person with experience and scholarly research in the area of visual impairment. Dr John Ravenscroft supervises Masters dissertations about visual impairment.

<http://bit.ly/1CoA6Gi>

How long does it take?

Studying for a Postgraduate Diploma usually takes 2.5 years but it can be done more quickly if teachers are prepared to put in extra time. We will timetable the Issues and Strategies course and the Cerebral visual impairment courses late in semester 1 each year to allow for the possibility that teachers may want to attempt 50 credits in one semester.

For students completing in 2 years we recommend a pattern like this from September 2016:

	2016/17	2017/18
Sem 1	Inclusive Pedagogy (20) Sources of Knowledge (10) Assessing pupils / students with visual impairment (20)	Cerebral visual impairment (20)
Sem 2	Conceptualising Research (10) Issues and Strategies for Teaching and Learning (visual impairment) (20)	Inclusion of children with visual impairment: policy and practice (20) Placement visit (0)

For semester 1 of year 1 we recommend the teacher operates on a reduced timetable at work.

For students completing in 3 years we recommend a pattern like this from September 2016:

	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
Sem 1	Inclusive Pedagogy (20) Sources of Knowledge (10)	Cerebral visual impairment (20)	Assessing pupils / students with visual impairment (20)
Sem 2	Conceptualising Research (10) Issues and Strategies for Teaching and Learning (visual impairment) (20)	Inclusion of children with visual impairment: policy and practice (20)	Placement visit (0)

With this 3-year pattern the work load is higher in the first year, but the first three generic courses will prepare you well for study at Master's level. The timing of the placement visit would be negotiated.

Those taking the MSc in Inclusive Education usually take an additional 2 years after they have finished their diploma, but they can finish more quickly than this depending on the amount of study time available.

Timetable of courses which make up the Postgraduate Diploma in Inclusive Education (visually impaired learners)

Information about dates, times, room numbers of ASL courses is on this website:

<http://bit.ly/11jK2pd>

Course	Tutor	Way of teaching	When it runs
Inclusive Pedagogy http://bit.ly/1XScJov	Holly Linklater	2 full days, one at start one at end, the rest online.	Every semester 1
Assessment pupils with VI http://bit.ly/28xmgoi	Elizabeth McCann	Face to face – 5 days	16/17 sem 1
Issues and strategies - VI http://bit.ly/1UO2quy	Elizabeth McCann	Face to face – 5 days	16/17 sem 2
Cerebral Visual Impairment http://bit.ly/1ZLaYqq	John Ravenscroft	Face to face – 5 days	17/18 sem 1
Inclusion and VI pupils http://bit.ly/1sCevNc	Elizabeth McCann	Face to face – 5 days	17/18 sem 2
Sources of knowledge (RM1) http://bit.ly/28xnxM5	Rory Ewins is co-ordinator Marie Hamilton is course secretary	Face to face or online – multiple groups	Every semester 1
Conceptualising research (RM2) http://bit.ly/1XjwrZz	Mike Orr, with Marie as above	As above	Every semester 2

How much does it cost?

For 2016/17 the 20 credit courses are £945 and the 10 credit courses are £475. The total fee for the Postgraduate Diploma will be £5,670. Fees may rise slightly from year to year.

Fee information is here: <http://bit.ly/1uCwcb1>

Information about accommodation in Edinburgh

Here is information about university accommodation which may be fairly cheap - all nearby to the School of Education:

<http://www.edinburghfirst.co.uk/for-accommodation-internal/>

Masson House (in Pollock Halls area, 20 minute walk to Moray House School of Education right near Salisbury Crags) is £51 for bed only in the spring term. Pollock Halls 18 Holyrood Park Rd, Edinburgh EH16 5AY
0131 651 2189..

Holiday Inn Express at 300 Cowgate has rooms from about £90 bed and breakfast: <http://www.hiexpressedinburgh.co.uk>

What about Braille?

Here at the University of Edinburgh the Scottish Sensory Centre offers distance Braille courses separately from the postgraduate diploma. (<http://www.ssc.education.ed.ac.uk/courses/braillefaq.html>) at an additional cost, as do the RNIB and other providers. The SSC's cost for Contracted UEB Course Fees for 2016-17 are £475 or £275 for the Final Assessment only. You can contact Ruth Simpson at the Scottish Sensory Centre to ask more about the Braille course. Ruth.simpson@ed.ac.uk

Can I ask more questions?

Yes, please contact the Programme director for MSc Inclusive Education Rachel O'Neill on Rachel.oneill@ed.ac.uk
Tel. 0131 651 6429

Elizabeth McCann is the course tutor for most of the courses about visual impairment. You can contact her here: Elizabeth.Mccann@ed.ac.uk
Tel. 0131

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