



BA (Hons) Primary Education with QTS

September 2021 Entry

SELECTION DAY GUIDE



WELCOME TO LIVERPOOL JOHN MOORES UNIVERSITY

Congratulations on gaining an interview!

We are delighted that your application has been successful so far and we are really looking forward to speaking to you on Interview Day.

Why study with us?

We are exceptionally proud of our Primary Education programme and the fantastic experience our teacher trainees gain while studying at LJMU. This is something recently backed up by Ofsted, who granted us Outstanding Provider status - their highest possible grade (January 2019).

Our course offers a very personalised degree experience. We selectively recruit a relatively modest cohort of between 60-70 students per academic year, meaning we can offer an excellent staff/student ratio, and our teaching and support staff foster positive relationships with our students.

As an institution, LJMU has strong, long held relationships with partner schools across Merseyside and the North West, meaning we're able to place our students in schools that are a commutable distance from where they live.

Throughout your three years on the programme, the modules are designed to help you develop the confidence to teach the core subjects - English, mathematics and science - and strategies for how best to teach these. We believe that laying strong foundations for every child in these subjects in Key Stage 1 and 2 sets them up for future academic success.

Our academic team is also keen to develop all students into well-rounded practitioners and we offer a broad range of enrichment opportunities throughout your degree. These include: Shakespeare Days and Poetry days, when local primary schools come together to participate in engaging workshops with our students; the opportunity of work towards FA Coaching certificates in order to enhance your PE teaching; the Philosophy for Education programme; and Forest School activities, which enable you to work towards a Level 3 certificate as a Forest School Ranger.

If you have any questions about the interview process or studying at LJMU, please don't hesitate to contact the Admissions Team - education@ljmu.ac.uk

Best wishes

Sarah Hindhaugh

Programme Leader,
BA (Hons) Primary Education with QTS

YOUR SELECTION DAY

Please read this document very carefully. It explains our entry procedures, gives you a good idea of what to expect and confirms how you can prepare in advance in order to be confident on the day. Although our selection process is rigorous, please do not be anxious; we are a friendly and welcoming community who genuinely want you to succeed in your choice of a career in teaching, on our OFSTED Outstanding programme!

In light of the Covid-19 pandemic, a situation that is constantly evolving, we have heeded recommendations from the government and Public Health England and have revised our methods of interviewing in order to avoid unnecessary face-to-face contact and keep both our staff and prospective students as safe as possible. Consequently, our interviews will be conducted virtually via Zoom. Please ensure you have a form of photo identification at your interview eg passport or driving license (a provisional is also acceptable).

Please note, if you are successful a condition of your offer will be to provide clear and legible copies / pictures of your GCSE English, Mathematics and Science certificates (or equivalent), as well as any completed Level 3 qualifications. You will be emailed information with a link on how to upload/send these to us.

The interview slot you have selected is fixed. If you are unable to do this day and time you have the opportunity to rebook your interview once via your Applicant Portal www.ljmu.ac.uk/applicant

You will be required to attend all elements of the morning or afternoon sessions.

Morning interview sessions will run from 9am-1pm and afternoon sessions will run from 12noon-4pm. You will have selected your session when you selected and booked your interview date, so please check on the Applicant Portal (www.ljmu.ac.uk/applicant) if you are unsure.

Please note, when you attend the Welcome/Introductory talk you will be required to make your first name and surname visible as the Admissions and Programme team will be allocating your interview slot and will be emailing you whilst the talk is taking place. Please check that your full name is visible on screen when you use Zoom. For your individual interview your name must be visible and your camera must be turned on and you must have your photo identification available for the start of your interview.

Information for morning sessions

The session will run from 9am-1pm the zoom links you will need for accessing the sessions are:

- Welcome/Introduction to Teaching/LJMU from 9am-9:45am
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86451437553>
- Individual Interviews from 10am-1pm <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87097875873>

You will be emailed with your allocated interview slot during the Welcome/Introductory talk once we know you have arrived. Please do not be late arriving for the talk otherwise this may delay you being allocated an interview. You will receive one interview slot either 10am, 10:30am, 11am, 11:30am, 12noon or 12:30pm and your interview is expected to last 20 minutes.

Information for afternoon sessions

The session will run from 12noon-4pm the zoom links you will need for accessing the sessions are:

- Welcome/Introduction to Teaching/LJMU from 12noon-12:45pm
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86424504359>
- Individual Interviews from 1pm-4pm = <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84211939698>

You will be emailed with your allocated interview slot during the Welcome/Introductory talk once we know you have arrived. Please do not be late arriving for the talk otherwise this may delay you being allocated an interview. You will receive one interview slot either 1pm, 1:30pm, 2pm, 2:30pm, 3pm or 3:30pm and your interview is expected to last 20 minutes.



ASSESSMENT AND INTERVIEW

There are two elements to the Selection Day:

Welcome Talk: For those who selected a morning interview, this will take place via Zoom at 9am. If you selected an afternoon time the welcome talk will take place at 12pm. It is an opportunity to hear more about the programme from the Programme Leader and ask any questions you may have.

Individual Interview: You will be interviewed individually by a member of LJMU Primary team.

Each candidate is asked the same questions. We are seeking to find out why you want to teach and what qualities you feel you have to offer. We will also explore work you may have undertaken in primary schools and how this has informed your understanding of the role of the Primary teacher. Each interview will last approximately 15/20 minutes.

All judgements of the individual interview will be based on the following criteria:

- Understanding of the role of the Primary teacher
- Academic ability and potential – realistic view of what the degree will entail
- Previous experience of working with school age children
- Potential as a teacher
- Resilience and perseverance
- Communication skills
- Confidence and enthusiasm

Preparation for the Individual Interview: We would like you to choose a children's book appropriate for the age range (5 – 11 years). We want you to prepare a section of the book, to read aloud at the interview, about a minute, as if it were to a group of primary children. One of the questions in your interview will link to this activity, we will ask you about why you chose the book and the age range you feel it would be appropriate for.

English Test: If you are successful in gaining an offer of a place on the course, you will be required to complete an online English test as part of your conditions of offer. This is a short task, of around an hour, based on recent research and takes the form of a comprehension. You will be contacted by email once your offer is processed to book your test date.



What happens after my Selection Day?

Following your interview, we will make a decision as soon as possible as to whether we can offer you a place on the course. Our overall decision on your application is based on all the elements of the assessment process. We are looking for a balance of knowledge, skills, experience and commitment, which will give us the confidence that you have the potential to complete the course and progress to a successful career in teaching.

Our Education Admissions Team will update UCAS on our decision. UCAS will then automatically generate a notification to you, letting you know the University's decision. We will make a decision in as timely fashion as possible after interview.

Offer Conditions

Any offer is usually conditional on your achievement of specified entry requirements. Your offer will include:

- Achieving the required UCAS tariff points for the course. If you have already achieved sufficient academic grades, we will require copies of these*.
- Copies of your GCSE English language, mathematics and science certificates* or equivalent (you must check any equivalence with us as not all are acceptable for teacher training courses).
- Completion of an English Test online (LJMU will contact you separately to book this test)
- Obtaining a satisfactory Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check*
If you are part of the DBS Update Service and have a DBS Enhanced certificate working with children we can accept this if you send us a copy to verify.
- Medical Clearance being obtained by the University*.

**You will be contacted following any offer being made with how and when this information will be required for completion and how to send this information to LJMU. Please note, DBS and Medical is only undertaken once your offer is Firm with us and usually from May 2021 onwards, further information below.*

DBS Check and “Fitness to Train to Teach”

If you are successful at gaining a place on one of our teacher training courses, the receipt of an Enhanced DBS (formerly CRB) will be a condition of offer for your course. The DBS Check will be undertaken by the University and will be sent to you from May 2021 onwards.

Please note: All applicants for Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) programmes must satisfy the Government requirements regarding ‘Fitness to Teach’. You will need to complete a Health questionnaire, which we will send to you. The LJMU Occupational Health Unit will process your form and is responsible for confirming that you are cleared for practice. On occasion this may involve an appointment with the Occupational Health Unit, which you would be required to attend.

Interview Checklist

- Any equivalent qualifications are checked prior to you attending interview by emailing a copy of them to education@ljmu.ac.uk quoting the course you have applied for and your UCAS application number
- You have access to Zoom and it is set-up on your device with your full name visible
- Your device is charged and power supply is available on the day
- You are in a quiet, suitable place where you will not be disturbed.
- You have your photographic identification ready
- You have prepared your book for the individual interview



USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS

Education Admissions Team

If you have any questions, please contact us:

T: 0151 231 3000

E: education@ljmu.ac.uk

ljmu.ac.uk/teach

Accommodation

If you require accommodation during your time with LJMU (once an offer is made), please contact our Accommodation Office:

E: accommodation@ljmu.ac.uk

ljmu.ac.uk/accommodation

Student Advice Team

LJMU employs staff that can offer advice and support to students and prospective students on a range of issues such as student funding and support for students with a disability, this includes any support you may need as part of the interview process.

Disability

E: disability@ljmu.ac.uk

T: 0151 231 3164

Funding and Money Advice

E: moneyadvice@ljmu.ac.uk

T: 0151 231 3153

ljmu.ac.uk/discover/student-support

The information in this booklet is correct at the time of production (October 2020). However, changes may inevitably occur. The University reserves the right to withdraw or make alterations to the course, modules and facilities if necessary.

For further information on the LJMU admissions policy, please visit:
ljmu.ac.uk/admissions



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