

Key FAQs

1. *Can I attend a school where I have relatives working or attending?*

No

You are not permitted to have a placement in a school where you have relatives working or attending. This is for confidentiality issues. Your role as a parent/wife/relative is very different from that of student teacher. You may well be exposed to confidentiality issues that might be inappropriate.

2. *Can I do a practicum placement in the school where I work?*

No

Students are not permitted to undertake professional experience in schools where family members are on staff or attending as pupils.

Students are not permitted to undertake professional experience placements in their current or recent place of employment or in a school where they are working or have worked recently.

Students are not permitted to be paid for professional experience.

Students must undertake professional experience at different locations.

Students must undertake professional experience in different year levels.

Special considerations for professional experience must be directed to the Course Coordinator.

3. *How many school placements do I need to complete?*

B.Ed ECE – You need to complete three school placements and one Early learning centre placement in total:

- 3 weeks in second year (EDE220);
- 4 weeks in third year (EDE310) and 5 x 1 day per week and a 3 week block in an Early Learning Centre in third year (EDE360);
- and 10-11 weeks (School Term) in fourth year (EDC450).

B.Ed Primary – You need to complete four school placements in total:

- sets of 2 then 3 weeks in second year (EDP210/227);
- 4 weeks in 3rd year (EDP320);
- and 10-11 weeks (School Term) in fourth year (EDC450).

B.Ed Secondary – You need to complete four school placements in total:

- sets of 2 then 3 weeks in second year (EDS210/260);
- 3 weeks in 3rd year (EDP360);
- and 10-11 weeks (School Term) in fourth year (EDC450).

These placements are embedded within units. There are approximately 9 weeks of interaction as normal within your units (for 2nd and 3rd year) and a placement for 2, 3 and 4 weeks in a school setting.

During your course of study, students need to gain experience in a variety of school contexts to meet Course and Teacher Registration requirements.

EDC450 Professional Experience 4: The Internship has no coursework, but there will be a discussion board on the unit Blackboard site for set up to support you during this time. You will continue to have a tutor for any issues with which you need assistance.

Master of Teaching

- 1st year – 2 weeks then 3 weeks (Annual Placement)
- 2nd year – one 3 week placement and then a 5 week placement

These placements are embedded within units. There are approximately 9 weeks of interaction as normal within your units and placements of 2, 3 and 5 weeks in a school setting.

During your course of study, students need to gain experience in a variety of school contexts to meet Course and Teacher Registration requirements.

4. How many schools do I need to find?

At least 3 different schools are required for your professional experience units.

This is to give you the opportunity to experience a range of learning and teaching contexts.

5. How will the internship be offered?

The Internship is a 10-11 weeks (School Term) placement in fourth year and is offered in all 4 study periods. However, SP4 is not usually suitable for most students as it covers the school holiday period.

Students will enrol in the relevant study period (e.g., SP1 starting in March) and complete the school experience in the following school term - term 2 starting in April. This will mean that technically you will be involved in 2 study periods (in the example SP1 and SP2) for your internship.... but financially will only be enrolled in 1 (SP1) and pay once.

Your grade will not be submitted until the paperwork has been completed and we have verified that you have successfully passed the placement and completed the required number of days.

Please remember, you need to have completed and passed all of the units for your degree, including electives, before you can commence your practicum placement. You also need to have a pass mark in the maths and literacy competency tests. If you have found a school, and then discover that you have failed a unit, you will need to withdraw from that school immediately.

6. *Do I have to make up missed days?*

Students are generally required to make up missed placements days e.g., public holidays or days missed due to illness. This is an important aspect of your ongoing professional commitment, and so that your placement days and assessment requirements are met in full. Where exceptional circumstances exist, students should seek advice from the Course Coordinator.

7. *What happens if a school or I terminate my placement?*

Under of the Curtin Fieldwork Education Policy, if a student is terminated by the School, or terminates themselves from their placement, the student will be deemed as failing the unit.