



## Information to candidates for PGCE Secondary English

Congratulations!

You have been invited to interview for a place on the PGCE Secondary English programme at Cardiff Metropolitan University - we are very much looking forward to meeting you and hearing about what you have to offer as a potential teacher of secondary English. This letter gives you information on what you will be asked to do during the interview day, and also gives you a clear idea of what we are looking for in a potential teacher of English. It is designed to help you prepare accordingly so you have the best chance possible to be successful.

There will be four parts to the interview process, which may not take place in the order given.

### Part 1

You will undertake tests in literacy, numeracy and digital competence. There will also be an extended writing task in response to an article on an educational topic, in order to assess your reading and writing skills. You will receive the article in advance of the day for preparation, so take the opportunity to read it thoroughly and understand its main points. This part of the day will take approximately two hours.

### Part 2

You will participate in a practical teaching task. We invite you to prepare a very short teaching episode of no more than 5 minutes. The focus should be **exploring the English language**. You are likely to be teaching a very small group of fellow applicants, no more than six. You can share your knowledge, or you might teach a skill. Areas you might choose, include, for example:


- an aspect of the history of English
- connections with other languages
- grammar
- spelling
- a particular writer's use of language
- the language of a particular genre
- regional variations in language
- language in the media.

We'll be looking for:

- an engaging, enthusiastic manner
- thought given to the preparation of your session
- secure subject knowledge and understanding
- clear presentation of information/ideas.

**N.B. There is no expectation for you to supply a lesson plan**

If you plan to use resources for your short teaching episode, you will need to provide them all, so be prepared and bring them with you. Also, it is worth noting that **there will not be PowerPoint or IT facilities available**.



1. *Keep it simple! We're not looking for a perfect lesson, just your potential, so something small but focused is ideal.*
2. *Choose a topic you feel confident about and comfortable with – remember, we're excited to see what you CAN do, not what you can't!*
3. *Go for it...and enjoy it!*

### Part 3

You will be asked to engage in a short discussion of about 10-15 minutes with the other candidates. You do not need to prepare for this, as the topic will be provided for you on the day.

**Part 4** will consist of a short individual interview in which you can explain your motivation for becoming a secondary English teacher, and demonstrate your understanding of the role of the teacher in a mainstream school setting. You will also have an opportunity to ask us questions so that you can make an informed choice. We also want a chance to tell you about our university and PGCE Secondary programme, as we think we have lots to offer a keen and aspiring trainee teacher and are as excited about your future as you are!

We look forward to meeting you at interview and wish you well for the day. Please arrive 15 minutes before your allotted time so we can start the programme promptly.

Best wishes

Dr Judith Kneen

PGCE Secondary English Programme Leader  
Cardiff Metropolitan University



Cardiff Met is the largest provider for PGCE Secondary in Wales and one of the largest in the UK. It is also one of only 4 universities to be awarded accreditation for Initial Teacher Education in Wales from September 2019: <https://www.ewc.wales/site/index.php/en/ite-accreditation/providers-of-initial-teacher-education-in-wales-from-2019.html>

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| <b>Arolwg<br/>Profiad a<br/>Addysgwyd<br/>Uwchraddedigion</b>                 | <b>Postgraduate<br/>Taught<br/>Experience<br/>Survey</b> |
| Quality of teaching and learning 90%  |  |
| Satisfaction with course 92%  |  |
| Satisfaction with school placements 98%                                       |  |
| 100% pass rate  |  |
| 95% of our student teachers find employment in the sector (DHLE survey 16/17) |  |

Find out more about our course on <http://www.cardiffmet.ac.uk/education/courses/Pages/Secondary-PGCE.aspx>