

# **BA (Hons) Primary Education with QTS**

**September 2024 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.

Our course offers a very personalised degree experience. We selectively recruit a relatively modest cohort of around 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 Northwest, 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:

Sustainability project 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](mailto: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.

Interviews will be conducted virtually via Microsoft Teams, please ensure you have access to Microsoft Teams, and have a form of photo identification at your interview e.g. passport or driving license (a provisional is also acceptable).

Your booking confirmation will include a Teams meeting link to join the Welcome/Introductory talk which is compulsory for you to attend. You will be allocated your individual slot for your interview on the day, and you will normally receive the Teams link for your interview during the Welcome talk.

Prior to joining the Welcome/Introductory talk please ensure your first name and surname are visible as the Admissions and Programme team will be allocating your interview slot. 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.

You will have selected your session when you booked your interview date, so please check on the Applicant portal ([www.ljmu.ac.uk/applicant](http://www.ljmu.ac.uk/applicant)) if you are unsure. If you find you are unable to attend on this date, we would appreciate it if you cancel your booking. If you would like to rebook you have one opportunity to rebook your interview via the LJMU Applicant Hub.

## **Information for morning sessions**

The session will run from 9am-1pm and you are required to attend all elements of the session.

- Welcome/Introduction to Teaching/LJMU from 9am-9:45am
- Individual Interviews from 10am-1pm

You will be emailed with your allocated interview slot and Teams link 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 and you are required to attend all elements of the session.

- Welcome/Introduction to Teaching/LJMU from 12noon-12:45pm
- Individual Interviews from 1pm-4pm

You will be emailed with your allocated interview slot and Teams link 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 Microsoft Teams 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 or school partner.

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 – Book Task:**

With reference to the Centre for Literacy guidance below, select a text which represents quality children's literature, prepare a section to read aloud (up to a minute) and be prepared to explain your choice.

The Centre for Literacy in Primary Education makes some key suggestions about how to choose quality books to use in the classroom with young readers. These include:

1. We should use books written by use a range of authors which represent our diverse society. We should not rely on common texts or our own childhood favourites (however good this might be!)
2. Choose books with quality artwork which either complement or extend the story. When selecting information books, select texts that present information in a variety of interesting ways
3. Over time, select a range of books that reflect diversity in all ways – race, heritage, disability, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, socio-economic class, status, religion and culture. Allow children to see themselves reflected in the books at times, and through other books, to see into other worlds
4. Select books that draw children in - that have a rich plot line – that make them care what is happening. Books should be emotionally appealing
5. Select books with rich language.

## INTERVIEW CHECKLIST

- You have access to Microsoft Teams, 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 task for the individual interview

## 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 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, usually within 2 or 3 days working days.

### 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 Key Stage. You will be contacted by email once your offer is processed to book your test date.

### Offer Conditions

Any offer is usually conditional on your achievement of specified entry requirements. You should complete the conditions by the given deadlines outlined on UCAS or this may result in your application being withdrawn.

### 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 prior to attending interview as not all are acceptable for teacher training courses).

Successful 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. Alternatively, LJMU will contact you separately once you have made LJMU your Firm choice usually from May 2024 onwards.

Successful completion of Medical Clearance process (LJMU will contact you separately once you have made LJMU your Firm choice usually from May 2024 onwards

*\*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.*

## **USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS**

### **Admissions Team**

If you have any questions, please contact:

E: [education@ljmu.ac.uk](mailto:education@ljmu.ac.uk) T: 0151 231 3000

### **Accommodation**

If you require accommodation during your time with LJMU (once an offer is made and you have accepted it as a Firm choice), please contact our Accommodation Office:

E: [accommodation@ljmu.ac.uk](mailto:accommodation@ljmu.ac.uk) T: 0151 231 4166

[ljmu.ac.uk/accommodation](http://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](mailto:disability@ljmu.ac.uk) T: 0151 231 3164

### **Funding and Money Advice**

E: [moneyadvice@ljmu.ac.uk](mailto:moneyadvice@ljmu.ac.uk) T: 0151 231 3153

[ljmu.ac.uk/discover/student-support](http://ljmu.ac.uk/discover/student-support)

