UPDATED INFORMATION FOR PME APPLICANTS FOR 2026 ENTRY TO MIC

Each offer of a place on the Professional Master of Education (Primary Teaching) at Mary Immaculate College will be PROVISIONAL pending verification of information supplied by the applicant, and fulfilment of other offer conditions**. If information supplied is found to be false or incomplete, the absolute right is reserved to cancel the offer of a place.**

An Interview is no longer part of the selection process for Mary Immaculate College and is now replaced by a points scoring system.

The basic requirement for entry is a minimum H2.2 Honours Bachelor Degree (Major Award at Level 8 or higher on the NFQ) which has an ECTS credit weighting of at least 180 credits. Those applicants who have not yet completed their degree at the time of applying are evaluated on the examination results of the most recently completed academic year **(not ERASMUS or equivalent**). In the case of degree courses assessed by Grade Point Average (GPA), the most recent cumulative grade point average figure will be the relevant one.

Applicants can be offered places, provisional to their being successful in their final degree examination. Applicants who hold an eligible primary degree at the time of application are evaluated on their degree results at level 8.

Points will be awarded on the basis of the following:-

- performance in an eligible honours Bachelor Degree at level 8
- additional relevant academic qualifications, if any
- relevant professional experience, if any

The points for academic performances are based on the overall percentage mark obtained in the appropriate examination, as confirmed by the applicant's university or awarding body, or as determined by Mary Immaculate College on the basis of information received. Maximum points for candidates with an eligible level 8 primary degree for which an Honours award is available is 51 points.

Points for Undergraduate & Primary Degree Performance

PERCENTAGE MARK RANGE		GPA RANGE		QCA Range		PME POINTS
Lower	**Upper**	**Lower**	**Upper**	**Lower**	**Upper**	**Honours Degree**
78.00	100.00	4.18	4.30	3.88	4.00	51
76.00	77.99	4.06	4.17	3.76	3.87	50
74.00	75.99	3.94	4.05	3.64	3.75	49
72.00	73.99	3.82	3.93	3.52	3.63	48
70.00	71.99	3.70	3.81	3.40	3.51	47
68.00	69.99	3.58	3.69	3.32	3.39	46
66.00	67.99	3.46	3.57	3.24	3.31	45
64.00	65.99	3.34	3.45	3.16	3.23	44
62.00	63.99	3.22	3.33	3.08	3.15	43
60.00	61.99	3.10	3.21	3.00	3.07	42
58.00	59.99	2.98	3.09	2.92	2.99	41
56.00	57.99	2.86	2.97	2.84	2.91	40
54.00	55.99	2.74	2.85	2.76	2.83	39
52.00	53.99	2.62	2.73	2.68	2.75	38
50.00	51.99	2.50	2.61	2.60	2.67	37

Sample Calculations based on the above points table

1. Student A received an overall percentage mark of 66.3 on an honours degree programme at level 8 which is equivalent to 45 points.
2. Student B received 74% in subject X and 62% in subject Y. Both subjects were in an eligible honours degree at level 8. Student B's overall percentage mark is (74 + 62)/ 2 = 68% which is equivalent to 46 points.
3. Student C has taken an honours degree programme at level 8 made up of a number of modules/courses. Student C's overall percentage mark is 64.32%, which is equivalent to 44 points.

Points for Additional Completed Postgraduate Qualifications

Qualifications	Points
PhD	10
Masters Degree	6
Higher/Graduate Diploma	3
Higher Certificate	1

Points for Additional Relevant Qualifications

Qualifications	Points
2nd Primary Degree	4
Diploma (Level 8 or higher) - at least 1 year full-time or 2 years part-time.	2
Certificate (Level 6 or higher) at least 1 year full-time or 2 years part-time.	1

Qualifications which form a subsidiary part of a higher qualification are *not* awarded points, e.g., a postgraduate or higher diploma that contributes to a Masters qualification, or a level 7 as part of a level 8 award e.g., a National Diploma as part of a Degree Programme.

All qualifications being submitted for assessment purposes for the allocation of points must be awarded by 1st March 2026.

Please note that if applicants wish to be awarded points for academic qualifications and professional experience, that they must upload all relevant documentation by the closing date of 10th April 2026, as any documentation omitted cannot be accepted by the College after this date. MIC will not accept documents sent by email or post and they must be uploaded with application form by 10th April 2026. Applicants can be offered places, provisional to their being successful in their final undergraduate degree examination, if not already completed.

Points for relevant Professional Experience

Up to five points may be awarded in recognition of **full-time paid employment** which is deemed relevant, and which can be verified. Points will normally be awarded on the basis of one point for year of relevant experience, **up to the maximum of five points.**

Up to two additional points may be awarded in recognition of **part-time paid employment** which is deemed relevant, and which can be verified. Points will normally be awarded on the basis of one point for year of relevant experience, **up to the maximum of two points.**

Applicants for the PME may have **other relevant experience**, independent of their academic programme(s), related to working with young people in a voluntary capacity. The experience must be over a sustained period and must be of a sufficiently high level to merit the allocation of additional points. In recognition of the value of these experiences, some additional points can be awarded. To claim additional points, you will normally need to provide a letter from an official of the organisation with whom you volunteered showing the start and end dates, your contribution in terms of time, and a description of the role.

Points are awarded in three categories:

i. Full-time paid professional experience. If the experience is deemed relevant, one point is awarded per year of employment, up to a maximum of 5 points.

ii. Part-time paid professional experience. If the experience is deemed relevant, one point is awarded per year of employment (min. 100 hours per year), up to a maximum of 2 points.

iii. Sustained voluntary work with young people (e.g., weekly) in an organisational context. If the experience is deemed relevant, 0.5 points is awarded per year of volunteering, up to a maximum of 2 points.

Applicants may make a claim for points in any or all of these categories, and may be awarded up to a maximum of 9 points in total.

Please note that:

Points cannot be awarded where the supporting information provided is ambiguous or incomplete.

The acceptance of points awarded for professional and voluntary experience is entirely at the discretion of Mary Immaculate College.

Points are not awarded for teaching in a school while unqualified.

Examples of relevant professional experience

	Normally accepted for points purposes	**Not accepted**
In education	Full time teaching in a school in another country. Working as a full-time special needs assistant. Working as a full-time classroom assistant. Full-time teaching in a HE or FE institute or in a centre of education as designated by the Education Act 1998. Teaching in a post-primary school as a qualified teacher.	Working in a non-contact role in a school, such as school caretaker. Working as an unqualified substitute teacher in a school. Paid internship which contributed to an academic qualification.
In working with young people	Verified full-time employment as a sports coach. Verified full-time employment as a youth organiser. Verified full-time employment as a social worker. Verified full-time employment in an early childhood setting. Verified full-time employment as a tutor in the arts (e.g., music, drama, dance).	Working as a personal trainer. Paid internship which contributed to an academic qualification.
In voluntary work with young people	Verified sustained volunteering as a sports coach, arts tutor, youth leader, etc.	Childminding or babysitting.

Note:

Full time employment is taken to mean full-time hours. **Continuous employment for at least 9 months is required to claim points for one year.** Part time can be considered if either

(i) part time throughout the year (minimum 100 hours), or

(ii) full time for a period of three months (e.g. summer employment).

Verification required for paid employment

- Letter from employer certifying the dates, nature of employment, and salary. OR

A completed employer reference form

Note: MIC may seek tax records as further verification of employment.

Verification required for voluntary work

Letter on headed notepaper from an official of the organisation with whom you volunteered.

Random Selection will be used where it is necessary to distinguish between applicants with equal points, after evaluation of each applicant has been completed.

Those wishing to accept an offer of a place will have to pay a non refundable deposit of €250, regardless of whether they are entitled to a grant or not. This money will be credited to the successful applicant's fees account with Mary Immaculate College.