

# **PROGRAMME MATTERS**

*Do note that the information below is not exhaustive.*

*Kindly refer to PGDE Programme Handbook, General Information Handbook and URLs stated below for details.*

## **1) Objectives of the Postgraduate Diploma in Education (PGDE) Programme**

The PGDE programmes aim to develop university graduates into autonomous thinking teachers. The programme design is underpinned by NIE's philosophy of teacher education—as embodied in the V<sup>3</sup>SK (Values<sup>3</sup>, Skills and Knowledge) Model—and NIE's GTC (Graduand Teacher Competencies) Framework.

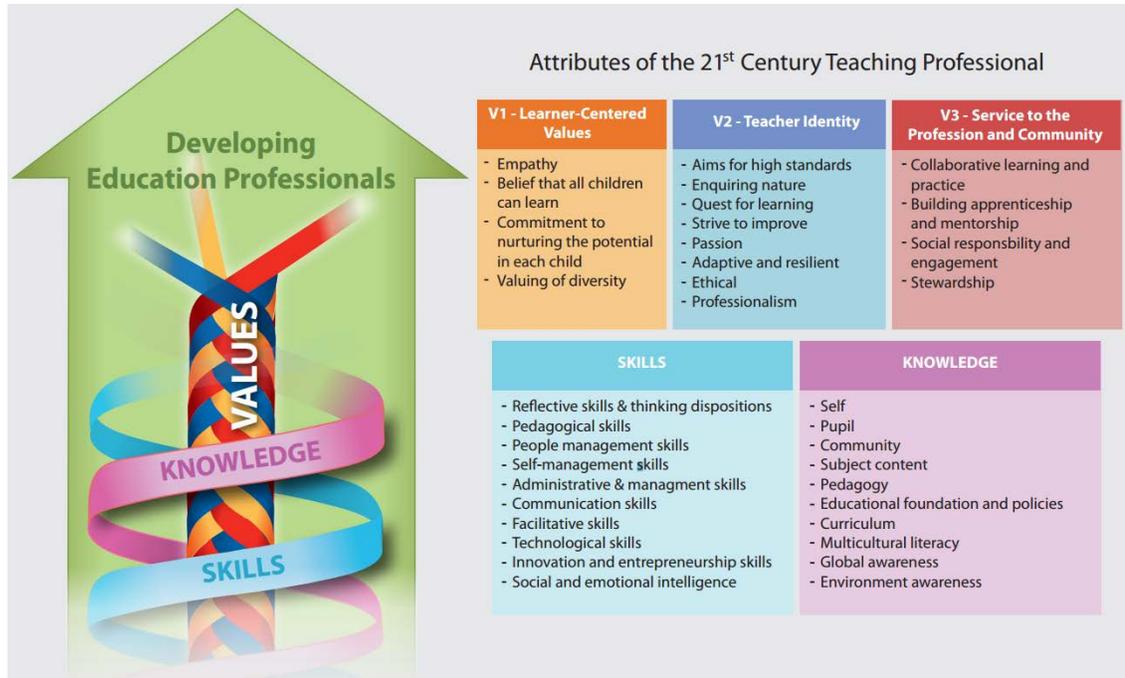
Specifically, the programmes are designed to help student teachers understand and respect the teaching profession in the Singaporean educational context as they acquire

- the professional knowledge and understanding of learners, as well as of the teaching and learning processes;
- a broad range of pedagogical and other relevant skills to be effective educators; and
- the theoretical grounding and critical capacities to make pedagogical judgements and decisions in both the more immediate and the more distant future.

Graduands are expected to be

- passionate in their teaching;
- committed to the education of the whole child;
- guided by their professional ethos;
- creative in their pedagogies;
- reflective in their practice;
- civic-minded;
- global in outlook;
- resilient; and
- adaptable.

## 2) V<sup>3</sup>SK (Values<sup>3</sup>, Skills and Knowledge) Model



[http://www.nie.edu.sg/docs/default-source/td\\_practicum/te21---v3sk.pdf](http://www.nie.edu.sg/docs/default-source/td_practicum/te21---v3sk.pdf)

## 3) Graduatd Teacher Competencies (GTC) Framework

Performance Dimensions	Core Competencies
Professional Practice	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Nurturing the whole child</li> <li>2. Providing quality learning of child</li> <li>3. Providing quality learning of child in CCA</li> <li>4. Cultivating Knowledge:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. with subject mastery</li> <li>ii. with reflective thinking</li> <li>iii. with analytic thinking</li> <li>iv. with initiative</li> <li>v. with creative teaching</li> <li>vi. with a future focus</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
Leadership & Management	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Winning Hearts and Minds               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Understanding the Environment</li> <li>ii. Developing Others</li> </ol> </li> <li>6. Working with Others               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Partnering Parents</li> <li>ii. Working in Teams</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
Personal Effectiveness	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. Knowing Self and Others               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Tuning into self</li> <li>ii. Exercising personal Integrity and legal responsibilities</li> <li>iii. Understanding and respecting others</li> <li>iv. Resilience and adaptability</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

[http://www.nie.edu.sg/docs/default-source/td\\_practicum/te21---gtc.pdf](http://www.nie.edu.sg/docs/default-source/td_practicum/te21---gtc.pdf)

#### 4) Programme Structure

	Sec track (PE)	Pri track (PE)
Educational Studies	✓	✓
Curriculum Studies	✓	✓
Language Enhancement and Academic Discourse Skills (LEADS)	✓	✓
Academic Subjects	✓	✓
Practicum	✓	✓

#### 5) Practicum

Teaching practicum enables student teachers to put theory into practice. It prepares student teachers for the realities of teaching in schools.

The 16-month PGDE programme includes two school-teaching stints:

- i. Teaching Practice 1 (Grading: Pass/Fail)
- ii. Teaching Practice 2 (Grading: Distinction/Credit/Pass/Fail)

All students must pass the Practicum before he or she can be awarded the PGDE certification.

The final grade of Teaching Practice 2 is based on the grade obtained at the first attempt. Student teacher who fails at the first attempt but subsequently passes it is only eligible for the Pass Award for PGDE regardless of the grade obtained for repeat Teaching Practice and the CGPA obtained.

## 6) Academic Calendar for first year of studies

### July Semester

Orientation:	30 Jul 2018 – 10 Aug 2018
Teaching Weeks:	13 Aug 2018 – 16 Nov 2018
Recess:	29 Sep 2018 – 07 Oct 2018
Vacation:	17 Nov 2018 – 02 Dec 2018

### Jan Semester

Teaching Weeks:	03 Dec 2018 – 31 May 2019
Recess:	22 Dec 2018 – 06 Jan 2019
Vacation:	01 Jun 2019 – 04 Aug 2019 *

\* Teaching Practice 1 will take place on 01 Jul – 02 Aug 2019

PE Student teachers are required to attend the compulsory “Introduction to Counselling for Teachers” course during the November Teachers’ Preparation Enhancement Programme (TPEP) after completing the July Semester of Year 2. Attendance is also compulsory for the Beginning Teachers’ Orientation Programme (BTOP), which begins after their Final Practicum. They will then assume teaching duties in the posted school immediately after.

## 7) Delivery Period of Courses



Delivery period for  
first 2 semesters\_Jul

## 8) Plagiarism

The Institute advises all student teachers to respect all copyrighted works and encourages the purchase of original textbooks and/or other copyrighted materials that are required for their programme of study.

Student teachers should not plagiarize or pass off as their own, the writing or ideas of another, without acknowledging or crediting the source from which the ideas are taken.

The Institute takes a serious view of any form of plagiarism and infringement of copyright by student teachers. A contravention of the provisions of the Copyright Act is deemed to be a breach of the Institute’s rules and regulations, which will result in disciplinary action in accordance with the university guidelines. Cheating, plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty are considered serious offences for which disciplinary penalties will be imposed.

Plagiarism includes:

- Copying text/tables/figures from other sources (verbatim or with minor changes) without proper citation
- Paraphrasing text from other sources without proper citation
- Using ideas from other sources without proper citation

Please refer to the NIE Academic Integrity Framework available on the NIE Portal for more details:

<http://portal.nie.edu.sg/portal/page/portal/TeacherPortal/ContentDetails?paramMainTab=127&paramNodes=715>

## 9) Examination and Results

Examination and results matters can be found on:

<http://portal.nie.edu.sg/portal/page/portal/TeacherPortal/ContentDetails?paramMainTab=127&paramNodes=450>

If a student teacher fails any course(s), he/she will repeat the course(s) in the following academic semester. In some cases, student teachers may be asked to take no-pay leave in order to attend lectures and to complete their courses.

They will have to register for the course and pay fees in the following semester, even if they are re-doing the assignment with guidance from lecturers.

For queries on salary matters, please email to [moe\\_hscd\\_hrc\\_hub@moe.gov.sg](mailto:moe_hscd_hrc_hub@moe.gov.sg) or [moe\\_eec\\_ttm@moe.gov.sg](mailto:moe_eec_ttm@moe.gov.sg)

## 10) The Academic Unit System

The Institute adopts the Academic Unit System. Academic Units (AUs) are used to measure academic workload per semester and per academic year. The academic year is currently divided into two semesters. Each programme consists of a number of courses, each carrying a certain number of AUs.

The Academic Unit provides a consistent measure of the student teacher's academic workload related to both class attendance and independent preparation. Used to weight courses taught for the duration of one semester, each AU typically represents a total of 13 hours of lesson activities.

## 11) Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) System

Grade and grade points are assigned as follows:

Letter- Grade	Grade Point	Academic Unit (AU)
A+	5.00	AU is earned
A	5.00	
A-	4.50	
B+	4.00	
B	3.50	
B-	3.00	
C+	2.50	
C	2.00	
D+	1.50	
D	1.00	
F	0.00	No AU is earned

The following non-letter grades abbreviations are also used, these will not be counted in the computation of the CGPA:

- \* - Courses with Pass/Fail grading only
- IP - In-Progress
- ABS - Absent (with valid reason)
- DIST/CR/P/F - Distinction/Credit/Pass/Fail  
(Grading for Practicum only)

The CGPA represents the grade average of all courses (including failed courses) attempted by a student teacher.

The CGPA will be reflected on student teachers' transcripts. When an 'F' grade is obtained in a course, and a new grade attained for the subsequent repeat,

- Both will be reflected on the transcript.
- Both grades will also be counted in the computation of CGPA.

No AU is earned for courses with 'F' grade. Student teachers are not allowed to repeat any courses taken except those with 'F' grade.

The requirements for graduation are as follows:

- a) Successful completion of the prescribed academic unit requirement as set out by the programme curriculum.
- b) A minimum CGPA of 2.00 is required at the end of the final semester of study.

The criteria for satisfactory academic standing in any given semester are:

- a) Maintaining a minimum CGPA of 2.00
- b) Completing at least 75% of the normal AU workload

## 12) Academic Warning, Probation and Dismissal

Student teachers with poor standing will be subjected to the following performance review:

Type of Warning	Criteria
Unsatisfactory Performance	Maintain a minimum CGPA of 2.00 and completing less than 75% of the normal Academic Unit Workload
Academic Warning	CGPA falls below 2.00 for the semester
Academic Probation	CGPA falls below 2.00 for the following semester
Academic Termination	CGPA falls below 2.00 for the 3 <sup>rd</sup> consecutive semester, or at the end of the final semester of study. A letter of termination will be issued.

## 13) PGDE Classification

Class of Award	CPGA Range	Min. Final Practicum Grade
Distinction	4.50 – 5.00	Credit
Credit	3.50 – 4.49	Pass
Pass	2.00 – 3.49	Pass

The final Practicum Grade is based on the grade obtained at the first attempt for Practicum. Student teacher who fails at the first attempt for Practicum but subsequently passes it is only eligible for the Pass Award for PGDE regardless of the grade obtained for repeat Practicum and the CGPA obtained.

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