



- (7) Apply effective communication strategies to establish, engage with, and nurture strong collaborative communities of practice so as to effectively and sensitively support and respond to families and children from diverse contexts and backgrounds .

### **Australian Qualifications Framework**

The Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) is a single national, comprehensive system of qualifications offered by higher education institutions (including universities), vocational education and training institutions and secondary schools. Each AQF qualification has a set of descriptors which define the type and complexity of knowledge, skills and application of knowledge and skills that a graduate who has been awarded that qualification has attained, and the typical volume of learning associated with that qualification type.

This program is at AQF Qualification Level 07. Graduates at this level will have broad and coherent knowledge and skills for professional work and/or further learning.

The full set of levels criteria and qualification type descriptors can be found by visiting [www.aqf.edu.au](http://www.aqf.edu.au).

### **Program Information Set**

View USQ's admission criteria, student profiles and a summary of all offers made under [Course Admission Information Set](#) via the QTAC website.

### **Admission requirements**

### **Domestic full fee paying place**

Domestic full fee paying places are funded entirely through the full fees paid by the student. Full fees vary depending on the courses that are taken. Students are able to calculate the fees for a particular course via the [Course Fee Finder](#).

Domestic full fee paying students may be eligible to defer their fees through a Government loan called [FEE-HELP](#) provided they meet the residency and citizenship requirements.

Australian citizens, Permanent Humanitarian Visa holders, Permanent Resident visa holders and New Zealand citizens who will be resident outside Australia for the duration of their program pay full tuition fees and are not eligible for [FEE-Help](#).

### **International full fee paying place**

International students pay full fees. Full fees vary depending on the courses that are taken and whether they are studied on-campus, via distance education/online. Students are able to calculate the fees for a particular course via the [Course Fee Finder](#).

### **Program structure**

The Bachelor of Early Childhood program is comprised of 24 units at undergraduate level (AQF Level 7) as follows:

- 23 [Core courses](#); and
- one special interest course ([Electives/Approved courses](#)).

### **Program completion requirements**

Within the 24 units required to complete this program, there also is a strict professional experience requirement as follows:

- 80 days supervised placement.

Please refer to [Professional experience](#) for further information.

### **Required time limits**

The standard duration for completion of this program is three years full-time or seven years part-time. Students have a maximum of seven years to complete this program.

### **Core courses**

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## **Electives/Approved courses**

As detailed in the Program structure section of this Handbook, students are required to select one Special Interest course from the table below.

From 1 January 2018, all applicants for initial teacher education programs nationally, including USQ's [Bachelor of Education](#), must meet both *academic* and *non-academic* entry criteria, detailed in the [admission requirements](#) for the [Bachelor of Education](#).

## Exit points

This program contains provision for two generic exit awards, as follows:

- Associate Degree in Education Studies (DAES) - available at the completion of 16 approved courses, 8 of which must be education courses; and
- Diploma of Education Studies (DPES) - available at the completion of 8 education courses.

## Credit

Candidates eligible for admission into this program may be eligible for up to 16 units of credit on the basis of successful completion of relevant, equivalent undergraduate level study completed at a recognised university or institution.

Credit approved in this program will not automatically apply to other USQ programs. Claims for credit should be submitted prior to or at the time of enrolment. Each claim will be assessed on individual merit in line with the [Credit and Exemptions Procedure](#).

For instructions on applying for credit, please visit our [website](#).

## Early Childhood

Students are able to enrol in any offered mode of a course (on-campus, external or online), regardless of the program mode of study they enrolled in.

Before enrolling, BECH students who began their programs prior to 2018 should review their enrolment pattern by using the relevant program transition links in the [My Initial Teacher Education \(MyITE\) site](#).

Students are strongly encouraged to follow the recommended enrolment pattern for their program. This is particularly important in respect to Professional Experience. Delaying Professional Experience may delay program completion by up to three (3) years.

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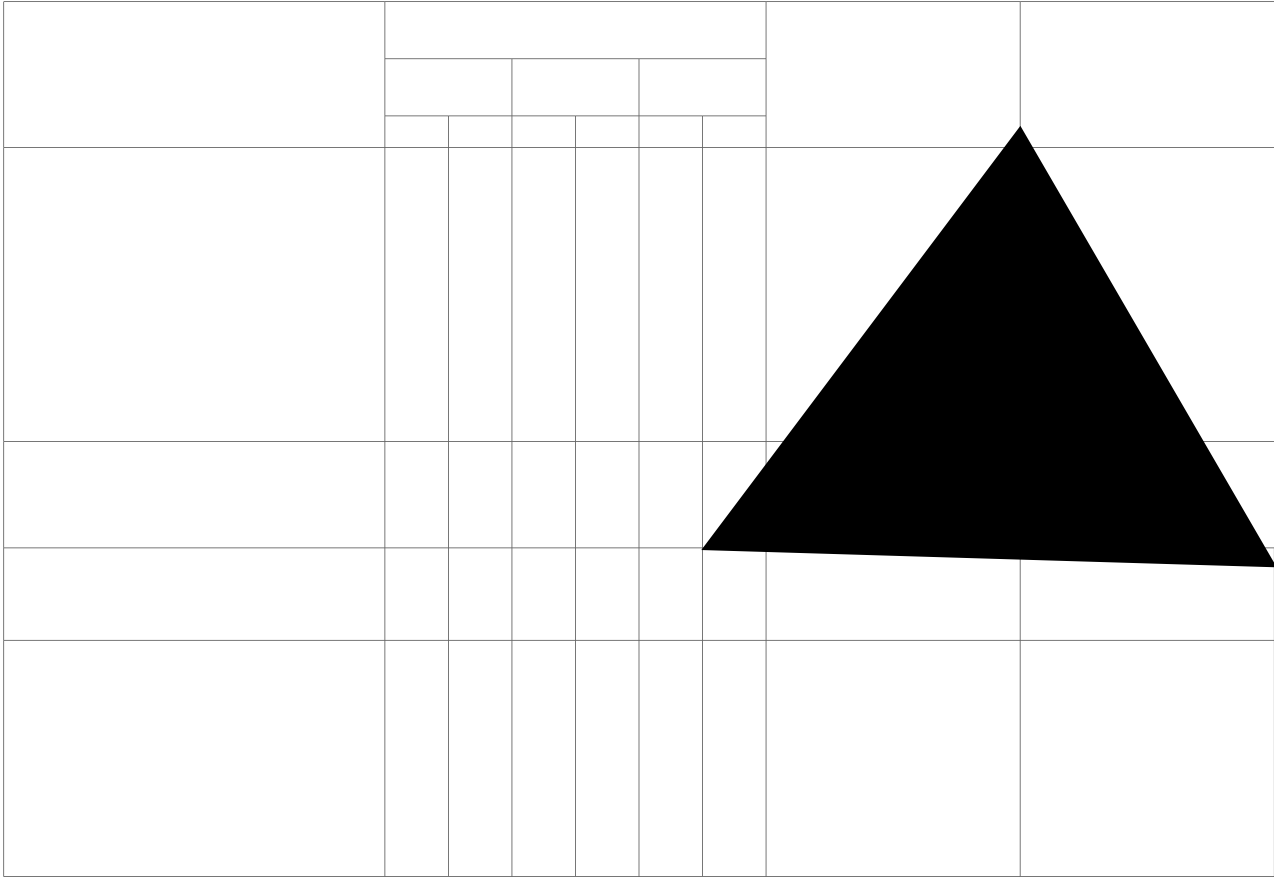
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