

Programme Specification: Undergraduate

For Academic Year 2026/27

1. Course Summary

Names of programme and award title(s)	BA (Hons) Philosophy and Education BA (Hons) Philosophy and Education with International Year (see Annex for details) BA (Hons) Philosophy and Education with Work Placement Year (see Annex for details) BA (Hons) Philosophy and Education with Entrepreneurship Year (see Annex for details)
Award type	Single Honours
Mode of study	Full-time
Framework of Higher Education Qualification (FHEQ) level of final award	Level 6
Normal length of the programme	3 years; 4 years with either the International Year or Placement Year or Entrepreneurship Year between years 2 and 3
Maximum period of registration	The normal length as specified above plus 3 years
Location of study	Keele Campus
Accreditation (if applicable)	Not applicable
Regulator	Office for Students (OfS)
Tuition Fees	<p>UK students:</p> <p>Fee for 2026/27 is £9,790*</p> <p>International students:</p> <p>Fee for 2026/27 is £18,200**</p> <p>The fee for the international year abroad is calculated at 15% of the standard year fee</p> <p>The fee for either the work placement year or entrepreneurship year is calculated at 20% of the standard year fee</p>

How this information might change: Please read the important information at <http://www.keele.ac.uk/student-agreement/>. This explains how and why we may need to make changes to the information provided in this document and to help you understand how we will communicate with you if this happens.

* These fees are regulated by Government. We reserve the right to increase fees in subsequent years of study in response to changes in government policy and/or changes to the law. If permitted by such change in policy or law, we may increase your fees by an inflationary amount or such other measure as required by government policy or the law. Please refer to the accompanying Student Terms & Conditions. Further information on fees can be found at <http://www.keele.ac.uk/studentfunding/tuitionfees/>

** These fees are for new students. We reserve the right to increase fees in subsequent years of study by an inflationary amount. Please refer to the accompanying Student Terms & Conditions for full details. Further information on fees can be found at <http://www.keele.ac.uk/studentfunding/tuitionfees/>

2. What is a Single Honours programme?

The Single Honours programme described in this document allows you to focus more or less exclusively on this subject. In keeping with Keele's commitment to breadth in the curriculum, the programme also gives you the opportunity to take some modules in other disciplines and in modern foreign languages as part of a 360-credit Honours degree. Thus it enables you to gain, and be able to demonstrate, a distinctive range of graduate attributes.

3. Overview of the Programme

This unique and exciting programme combines the study of Philosophy with Education thereby equipping you with the intellectual tools to prepare you for careers working with learners whether that be in schools, as a youth worker, as a child psychologist, or through shaping educational policy. The Philosophy component of your degree will further enhance your critical thinking skills and, with a strong emphasis on critical analysis and independent thought, will allow you to address the big questions surrounding education such as, 'What should young people study at school and why?'; 'How should learners be taught and assessed?'; 'What difference can schools really make to children's life chances?', and 'What are the major challenges facing education around the world today?'.

In your first year, you will be introduced to foundational concepts and theories in Education and Philosophy, developing essential skills for university-level study. You will explore the nature and purpose of education, the role that values should (or should not) play in schools, what those values should be, and the shifting identities of those working within educational systems. This year builds a strong foundation for understanding how critical and questioning stances adopted in Philosophy can impact education and pedagogy.

The second year deepens your understanding of core philosophical debates and theories, engaging with key historical figures such as Locke, Hume, and Kant. You will also examine pressing educational issues, such as inclusion, against the backdrop of social change and digital transformations. Through applied and learner-focussed assessments, you will develop key research, critical thinking, and communication skills while engaging with external partners to build networks and enhance your professional readiness.

In your final year, you will focus on how Education and Philosophy can be mobilised to improve social conditions and shape a better future. You will explore critical challenges facing education, such as the role of AI, and have opportunities to connect with professionals in public and community sectors to apply your knowledge in real-world contexts. This year culminates in an independent research project, allowing you to investigate a topic of personal interest and showcase the analytical, and practical skills you have developed.

By the end of your degree, you will have acquired a range of critical and practical skills, paving the way for a wide range of careers. Philosophy teaches the transferable skills which employers in the modern world desire since it teaches skills of logical analysis and textual criticism, as well as cooperation and leadership through its emphasis on debate and the development of original and independent thinking, while Education will aid you for a career in teaching or working with young people. Wherever you go, our unique combination of educational theory combined with critical thinking about the world will set you up to make changes to the life chances of others in society.

4. Aims of the programme

The broad aims of the programme are to enable you to:

- Explore a range of contemporary topics relevant to working with young people in schools and within wider society. Drawing on the domains of sociology, curriculum studies, cultural studies, psychology, and global education, acquire skills to help you gain employment in the Education sector.
- Gain practical experience through placements of your choice in schools, nurseries, local authorities, third sector organisations, or the private sector.
- Confidently conduct authentic research on a topic of your choice and make a contribution to the field of education.
- Develop a range of skills including those of independent research, collaborative teamwork, the writing of essays and reports, presentations, as well as the composition of multi-media resources designed to assist the most deprived sectors of the community.
- Develop the critical and questioning skills and attitudes which will enable you to become a lifelong learner and enhance and change the lives of young people.
- Engage with stakeholders in addressing social issues and promoting social change.

5. What you will learn

The intended learning outcomes of the programme (what students should know, understand and be able to do at the end of the programme), can be described under the following headings:

- Subject knowledge and understanding

- Subject specific skills
- Key or transferable skills (including employability skills)

Subject knowledge and understanding

Successful students will be able to:

- Conduct independent research projects that contribute to the field of education
- Design and integrate educational technologies and digital tools to enhance learning experiences
- Apply educational theories to address real-world challenges in educational settings
- Identify, design and conduct an original educational research study, recognising the importance of ethics, applying theoretical and methodological frameworks and using appropriate tools to analyse findings
- Critically analyse educational literature or a practice-based issue to address a specific problem/issue
- Develop a personal and professional roadmap for navigating future educational change and propose alternatives for the future
- Recognise, interpret and evaluate theories, concepts and research in defined areas at the forefront of philosophy
- Apply philosophical theories and methods of inquiry to understanding and determining a personal stance on new and unfamiliar problems in areas of current research activity
- Demonstrate a critical understanding of philosophical theories and concepts as applied to areas of contemporary relevance
- Critically assess the research literature in a specific area of philosophical interest

Subject specific skills

Successful students will be able to:

- Reflect on own practice to identify areas for improvement and professional development
- Assess complex education texts and identify possible directions for further theoretical and empirical research in education based on a broadening knowledge of future challenges.
- Evaluate the increasing complexity of educational and pedagogic knowledge
- Critically evaluate primary and secondary source material, synthesise arguments, and present discussions in written form
- Assess usefulness and application of educational knowledge in the context of a range of possible careers and opportunities involving children and young people
- Describe and make critical judgements about developments in current areas of philosophical research
- Communicate ideas effectively and fluently, informed by contemporary research in philosophy both orally and in writing
- Formulate research questions and identify appropriate research strategies to address them
- Manage their own learning, making use of appropriate materials in a current area of philosophical research

Key or transferable skills (including employability skills)

Successful students will be able to:

- Construct a range of strategies and methods for answering research questions and testing hypothesis
- Locate, review, evaluate and analyse literature and empirical data on a research topic.
- Mobilize advanced written and oral skills into different personal and professional settings.
- Understand the ways in which pedagogic knowledge can be transformative for the lives of children and young people and how that can be mobilized in practice.
- Become a critical thinker, someone who challenges ideas, interprets and questions evidence
- Work as part of a team; learn to listen, understand, and respect the views of others; and to produce a collective output
- Learn from feedback and experience in tutorials, reflecting on your actions, acting on learning points, and engaging in the process of continuous learning.
- Work productively in a largely unstructured context exercising initiative and personal responsibility
- Make decisions and plan activity in uncertain and unpredictable contexts
- Take responsibility for planning, reflecting and reviewing progress on career aspirations
- Be honest, act ethically, uphold personal morals in academic and workplace settings, respecting the views of others

[Keele Graduate Attributes](#)

The Keele Graduate Attributes are the qualities (skills, values and mindsets) which you will have the opportunity to develop during your time at Keele through both the formal curriculum and also through co- and extra-curricular activities (e.g., work experience, and engagement with the wider University community such as acting

as ambassadors, volunteering, peer mentoring, student representation, membership and leadership of clubs and societies). Our Graduate Attributes consist of four themes: **academic expertise, professional skills, personal effectiveness, and social, environmental and ethical responsibility**. You will have opportunities to engage actively with the range of attributes throughout your time at Keele: through your academic studies, through self-assessing your own strengths, weaknesses, and development needs, and by setting personal development goals. You will have opportunities to discuss your progress in developing graduate attributes with, for example, Academic Mentors, to prepare for your future career and lives beyond Keele.

6. How is the programme taught?

Learning and teaching methods used on the programme vary according to the subject matter and level of the module. They include the following:

- Interactive lectures enable the communication of core materials on modules and are central to the teaching of modules at years 1, 2, and 3. Skills of active listening and notetaking will be developed.
- Seminars accompany lectures on modules in years 1, 2 and 3. They provide students with the opportunity to discuss lecture content and key readings with a tutor. Students are encouraged to contribute and activities will include close readings, open discussions, and student-led debates, moderated by the tutor. These activities take place in groups of approximately 20 students with one tutor.
- Workshops enable the simultaneous communication and discussion of module material. These take the form of two-hour classes of around 30 students. Much of the learning that takes place here will be collaborative in nature and students are expected to engage actively with their peers.
- Placements, where possible in a setting of the student's choosing, will provide clear and relevant experience of particular sectors of work which will directly aid in career development.
- Field trips will be used to enhance learning and provide valuable experiential learning opportunities
- Independent study forms a core component at every level of the programme. Students are expected to become increasingly independent over the course of the programme.
- Supervision accompanies independent study in order to provide students with a point of contact in the programme teaching group. Supervision takes the form of one-to-one student-tutor discussion in (and outside of) office hours at all levels of the programme and support by a member of staff for students who choose to take the dissertation module in Education in year three.
- Active web-based learning using the Keele Learning Environment (KLE): the KLE is an online learning environment used to give students easy access to a wide range of resources including interactive reading lists, lecture notes, assessment questions and guidance, and supporting resources. Microsoft Teams may also be used to facilitate online communication.

Apart from these formal activities, students are also provided with regular opportunities to talk through particular areas of difficulty, and any special learning needs they may have, with their Academic Mentors or module lecturers on a one-to-one basis.

7. Teaching Staff

The teaching staff for Philosophy all have doctorates (PhDs or the equivalent) in philosophy and are active researchers. Their work, across many different aspects of philosophy, has been widely published in books, research monographs and leading international journals. The Philosophy staff group has extensive experience of teaching at undergraduate and postgraduate level in a variety of leading UK and international universities. They are all either members or associates of the HEA or have a formal teaching qualification. All teaching staff on the Philosophy Programme have received awards or nominations for excellence in teaching.

The core teaching staff of the Education Programme all have doctorates in one of the many aspects of Education including the history of education, educational policy, sociology of education, anthropology, or youth studies and all have accredited teaching qualifications such as Fellowship or Senior Fellowship of Advance HE with many also having worked in schools. All members of the teaching staff are research active and members of the research institutes at Keele, including the Keele Institute for Social Inclusion. The Education group regularly publish books, book chapters, and articles with academic presses and in international journals. The teaching group also has extensive experience of teaching at undergraduate and postgraduate level at universities in the UK and internationally. Additionally, the programme is supplemented by overseas staff who bring with them international and special educational needs expertise.

The University will attempt to minimise changes to our core teaching teams, however, delivery of the programme depends on having a sufficient number of staff with the relevant expertise to ensure that the programme is taught to the appropriate academic standard.

Staff turnover, for example where key members of staff leave, fall ill or go on research leave, may result in changes to the programme's content. The University will endeavour to ensure that any impact on students is limited if such changes occur.

8. What is the structure of the Programme?

The academic year runs from September to June and is divided into two semesters. The number of weeks of teaching will vary from programme to programme, but you can generally expect to attend scheduled teaching sessions between the end of September and mid-December, and from mid-January to the end of April. Our degree courses are organised into modules. Each module is usually a self-contained unit of study and each is usually assessed separately with the award of credits on the basis of 1 credit = 10 hours of student effort. An outline of the structure of the programme is provided in the tables below.

There are two types of module delivered as part of your programme. They are:

- Compulsory modules - a module that you are required to study on this course;
- Optional modules - these allow you some limited choice of what to study from a list of modules.

Global Challenge Pathways

This programme includes the option for you to take a Global Challenge Pathway. These modules offer you an exciting opportunity to work with students and staff from different disciplines to explore topical global issues such as power and conflict, health inequalities, climate change, generative AI, social justice, global citizenship, and enterprise from different perspectives.

Global Challenge Pathways can either be taken as one 15-credit module at Levels 4, 5 and 6, or one 15-credit module at Levels 5 and 6. For more information about our Global Challenge Pathways please visit:

<https://www.keele.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/globalchallengepathways/>

Modern Languages or Certificate in TESOL

Alternatively, you could choose to study modules with the University Language Centre. The Language Centre offers three pathways; The Language Specialist, The Language Taster, and The Trinity Certificate in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Language (TESOL). Language Centre modules are available separately for students at Levels 4 and 5. At Level 6 they are included within the Global Challenge Pathways.

If you choose the Language Specialist pathway, you will automatically be enrolled on a Semester 2 Modern Language module as a continuation of your language of choice as a faculty funded 'additional' module. Undertaking a Modern Languages module in Semester 2 is compulsory if you wish to continue to the Language Specialist Global Challenge Pathway the following academic year.

For more information about Language Centre option modules available to you please visit the following webpages.

For Level 4 and 5 students please visit: <https://www.keele.ac.uk/study/languagecentre/languagecentreoptions/>

For Level 6 students please visit: <https://www.keele.ac.uk/students/academiclife/global-challenge-pathways/>

For further information on the content of modules currently offered, please visit:

<https://www.keele.ac.uk/recordsandexams/modulecatalogue/>

A summary of the credit requirements per year is as follows:

Year	Compulsory	Optional	
		Min	Max
Level 4	105	15	15
Level 5	60	60	60
Level 6	75	45	45

Module Lists

Level 4

Compulsory modules	Module Code	Credits	Period
Philosophy as Reason and Wonder	PHI-10030	30	Semester 1
Education Past and Present	EDU-10078	30	Semester 1-2
Becoming a Social Scientist	SSC-10001	15	Semester 1-2
What does it mean to be good?	PHI-10026	30	Semester 2

Optional modules	Module Code	Credits	Period
Nietzsche's Death of God	PHI-10024	15	Semester 1
Children and Learners in Society	EDU-10080	15	Semester 1-2

Level 5

Compulsory modules	Module Code	Credits	Period
Educational Inequalities	EDU-20050	30	Semester 1
Enlightenment Philosophy	PHI-20038	30	Semester 2

Optional modules	Module Code	Credits	Period
The American South: US Summer School (Level 5)	LIB-20012	15	Semester 0
Meaning and Nihilism	PHI-20032	15	Semester 1
Critical Issues in Higher Education	EDU-20052	15	Semester 1-2
Social Sciences Placement	SSC-20001	15	Semester 1-2
Diversity and Inclusion in Education	EDU-20054	30	Semester 2
Social Sciences at Work	SSC-20005	15	Semester 2

Level 5 Module Rules

Students who choose American South and/or Placement cannot do these again at Level 6.

Students must choose the Placement or SSC-20005.

Students taking study abroad may not take EDU-20054.

Level 6

Compulsory modules	Module Code	Credits	Period
Evaluating Science with Philosophy	PHI-30040	30	Semester 1
Engaged Social Science	SSC-30005	15	Semester 1-2
Educational Policy: Making Change	EDU-30132	30	Semester 2

Optional modules	Module Code	Credits	Period
Independent Research Project - ISP	EDU-30071	30	Semester 1-2
What is Education For?	EDU-30136	15	Semester 1-2
PHILOSOPHY DISSERTATION - ISP	PHI-30025	30	Semester 1-2
Work Placement for Social Sciences Final Year Students	SSC-30003	15	Semester 1-2
Practical Philosophy	PHI-30042	15	Semester 2

Level 6 Module Rules

Students must take either Philosophy Dissertation OR Independent Research Project in Education. Students who take PHI-30025 cannot select PHI-30042 as their optional module.

Students who take EDU-30071 cannot take EDU-30036 as their optional module.

Students opting for the Entrepreneurship Year cannot also take a Placement Year or International Year.

Learning Outcomes

The table below sets out what students learn in the programme and the modules in which that learning takes place. Details of how learning outcomes are assessed through these modules can be found in module specifications.

Level 4

In Year 1 (Level 4) and Year 2 (Level 5) these learning outcomes are achieved in the compulsory modules which all students are required to take. Some of these outcomes may also be achieved or reinforced in option modules together with other outcomes not stated here. In Year 3 (Level 6) the stated outcomes are achieved by taking any of the modules offered in each semester.

The design of all modules, assessments, and educational activities has inclusivity at the heart following Keele's Inclusive Education Framework. This inclusive education framework reflects our commitment to ensure that all students, including those with protected characteristics and beyond, can participate and thrive in every aspect of the educational experience and process. We intentionally create positive, engaging and socially cohesive learning environments that ensure all students can feel a sense of personal value and belonging.

In Level 4 learning outcomes are achieved in the compulsory modules and reinforced in optional modules. Level 4 modules provide students with a thorough grounding in the study skills needed for education and philosophy.

Subject Knowledge and Understanding	
Learning Outcome	Module in which this is delivered
Demonstrate an understanding of key concepts, theories and principles in education.	Education Past and Present - EDU-10078 Children and Learners in Society - EDU-10080
Evaluate historical and contemporary education practices within local and national contexts.	Education Past and Present - EDU-10078 Children and Learners in Society - EDU-10080
Understand the role of education in promoting social justice, equity and inclusion.	Education Past and Present - EDU-10078 Children and Learners in Society - EDU-10080
Synthesize information from a variety of sources to construct coherent arguments in response to educational issues.	Education Past and Present - EDU-10078 Children and Learners in Society - EDU-10080
Explain the distinctive characteristics of philosophy as a discipline	What does it mean to be good? - PHI-10026 Philosophy as Reason and Wonder - PHI-10030
Recognise the central problems of philosophy	What does it mean to be good? - PHI-10026 Philosophy as Reason and Wonder - PHI-10030
Critically engage with philosophical problems	What does it mean to be good? - PHI-10026 Philosophy as Reason and Wonder - PHI-10030
Recognise the main theoretical traditions in philosophy and illustrate their application to a variety of philosophical problems	What does it mean to be good? - PHI-10026 Philosophy as Reason and Wonder - PHI-10030
Develop their own philosophical views and defend them using rational argument	What does it mean to be good? - PHI-10026 Philosophy as Reason and Wonder - PHI-10030
Recognise basic argument forms and apply the basic principles of deductive logic	Philosophy as Reason and Wonder - PHI-10030
Recognise and apply reasoning skills essential for the proper presentation, analysis and criticism of arguments	Philosophy as Reason and Wonder - PHI-10030
Identify common fallacies and rhetorical devices	Philosophy as Reason and Wonder - PHI-10030
Apply logical and critical thinking skills to philosophical problems, as well as to arguments encountered in everyday contexts	What does it mean to be good? - PHI-10026 Philosophy as Reason and Wonder - PHI-10030

Subject Specific Skills	
Learning Outcome	Module in which this is delivered
Communicate effectively in written and oral forms to a variety of audiences.	Children and Learners in Society - EDU-10080 What does it mean to be good? - PHI-10026 Philosophy as Reason and Wonder - PHI-10030
Manage time effectively and undertake self-directed learning to achieve academic goals.	Children and Learners in Society - EDU-10080 What does it mean to be good? - PHI-10026 Philosophy as Reason and Wonder - PHI-10030
Active listening and engagement with a diverse range of people.	Children and Learners in Society - EDU-10080 What does it mean to be good? - PHI-10026 Philosophy as Reason and Wonder - PHI-10030
Reflect critically on the range of individual learning experiences and opportunities.	Children and Learners in Society - EDU-10080 What does it mean to be good? - PHI-10026 Philosophy as Reason and Wonder - PHI-10030
Use appropriate bibliographic search tools to find relevant materials in hard copy and electronic formats	Children and Learners in Society - EDU-10080 What does it mean to be good? - PHI-10026 Philosophy as Reason and Wonder - PHI-10030
Present written work in philosophy in an appropriate scholarly style using the Harvard system of citation and referencing	Children and Learners in Society - EDU-10080 What does it mean to be good? - PHI-10026 Philosophy as Reason and Wonder - PHI-10030
Distinguish between, and appropriately engage with both, primary and secondary sources	Children and Learners in Society - EDU-10080 What does it mean to be good? - PHI-10026 Philosophy as Reason and Wonder - PHI-10030
Identify the general logical principles that apply to all forms of argument	Philosophy as Reason and Wonder - PHI-10030
Evaluate arguments for validity, soundness, reliance upon rhetorical devices, and fallacies	Philosophy as Reason and Wonder - PHI-10030

Key or Transferable Skills (graduate attributes)	
Learning Outcome	Module in which this is delivered
Effective time-management and organizational skills to meet deadlines and prioritize tasks.	All level 4 Philosophy and Education modules
Written communication skills through the preparation of structured and coherent essays, reports, and other written assignments.	All level 4 Philosophy and Education modules
Active listening and note-taking abilities during lectures, seminars, and group discussions.	All level 4 Philosophy and Education modules
Collaborate effectively with peers in group discussions or group activities, demonstrating interpersonal and teamwork skills.	All level 4 Philosophy and Education modules
Basic information and digital literacy skills to locate, evaluate, and ethically use online resources and digital tools for research and assignments.	All level 4 Philosophy and Education modules
Reflect on personal skills attributes, identify where there may be gaps, and recognize how these might be addressed.	All level 4 Philosophy and Education modules
Develop and present their own views, as well as devise solutions to problems, on the basis of valid forms of argumentation	What does it mean to be good? - PHI-10026 Philosophy as Reason and Wonder - PHI-10030
Identify the general logical principles that apply to all forms of argument	Philosophy as Reason and Wonder - PHI-10030
Evaluate arguments for validity, soundness, reliance upon rhetorical devices, and fallacies	Philosophy as Reason and Wonder - PHI-10030
Communicate ideas and arguments orally and in writing to an audience of their peers using appropriate visual presentation aids	What does it mean to be good? - PHI-10026 Philosophy as Reason and Wonder - PHI-10030
Work with others, demonstrating the capacity to plan, share goals, cooperate and collaborate with other members of a team	All level 4 Philosophy and Education modules
Use IT for the retrieval and presentation of information in support of ideas and arguments.	All level 4 Philosophy and Education modules
Reflect on and plan their own learning by acting appropriately on feedback.	All level 4 Philosophy and Education modules

Level 5

Subject Knowledge and Understanding	
Learning Outcome	Module in which this is delivered
Critically evaluate historical and contemporary education policies and practices within local, national and global contexts.	Educational Inequalities - EDU-20050 Diversity and Inclusion in Education - EDU-20054
Recognise changes to the subject matter and methodology of philosophy that occurred in the 17th and 18th centuries; relate the philosophy of this period to ancient, medieval and contemporary concerns.	Enlightenment Philosophy - PHI-20038
Understand and evaluate the importance of the historical, social, political and cultural contexts in which education occurs	Educational Inequalities - EDU-20050 Diversity and Inclusion in Education - EDU-20054
Analyse and critically assess social science research using appropriate methodologies	Social Sciences Placement - SSC-20001
Develop an awareness of ethical considerations and professional standards in education	Social Sciences Placement - SSC-20001
Foster a positive and inclusive learning environment that supports the well-being and development of all learners	Educational Inequalities - EDU-20050 Diversity and Inclusion in Education - EDU-20054
Engage with current research literature and identify areas for further investigation	Social Sciences Placement - SSC-20001
Apply logical analytic methods to central problems of theoretical philosophy	Enlightenment Philosophy - PHI-20038
Appreciate and assess the relevance of philosophical problems to the contemporary world	Meaning and Nihilism - PHI-20032 Enlightenment Philosophy - PHI-20038

Subject Specific Skills	
Learning Outcome	Module in which this is delivered
Evaluate the theories of 17th and 18th century philosophers and apply them to traditional philosophical problems	Enlightenment Philosophy - PHI-20038
Discern relationships between rationalist and empiricist systems of philosophy, and identify their presuppositions	Enlightenment Philosophy - PHI-20038
Adjudicate between competing philosophical theories and methodologies	Enlightenment Philosophy - PHI-20038
Conduct independent research in order to identify, locate, and retrieve appropriate paper and electronic materials to supplement module reading lists	Meaning and Nihilism - PHI-20032 Enlightenment Philosophy - PHI-20038
Apply philosophical ideas to issues of contemporary concern	Meaning and Nihilism - PHI-20032 Enlightenment Philosophy - PHI-20038
Develop personal opinions on controversial philosophical topics	Meaning and Nihilism - PHI-20032 Enlightenment Philosophy - PHI-20038
Develop and adapt curricula to meet the diverse needs of learners and educational standards	Educational Inequalities - EDU-20050 Diversity and Inclusion in Education - EDU-20054
Conform to academic conventions, reflect on own performance, and present materials in a coherent and professional fashion.	All level 5 Philosophy and Education modules
Demonstrate a critical appreciation for how educational ideas, theories, and concepts can be applied to real-world examples and case studies to illustrate their relevance and implications.	Educational Inequalities - EDU-20050 Diversity and Inclusion in Education - EDU-20054
Identify and distinguish between various quantitative and qualitative research methods and data sources used by educational researchers.	Social Sciences Placement - SSC-20001
Interpret, analyze and explain patterns of data relating to international systems of schooling outside of the 'Global North'.	Diversity and Inclusion in Education - EDU-20054
Explain the process of producing research in education, the difference between methodology and method, and the suitability of different data collection procedures for various research problems.	Social Sciences Placement - SSC-20001

Key or Transferable Skills (graduate attributes)	
Learning Outcome	Module in which this is delivered
Advanced time-management and organizational skills to work to meet deadlines and prioritise tasks.	All Level 5 Philosophy and Education modules
Preparation of well-structured and coherent written assignments for the exposition of complex information and data.	All Level 5 Philosophy and Education modules
Reflect on personal skills attributes, identify where there may be gaps, and recognize how these might be addressed.	Social Sciences Placement - SSC-20001
Evaluate strategies and methods for answering research questions or hypotheses, constructing appropriate strategies and methods considering the ethical implications of such designs.	Social Sciences Placement - SSC-20001
Communicate ideas and persuasive arguments orally and in writing to an audience of their peers using appropriate visual presentation aids	All Level 5 Philosophy and Education modules
Undertake a range of basic research tasks making appropriate use of information technology	All Level 5 Philosophy and Education modules

Level 6

Subject Knowledge and Understanding	
Learning Outcome	Module in which this is delivered
Plan and conduct an independent research project	Independent Research Project - ISP - EDU-30071 PHILOSOPHY DISSERTATION - ISP - PHI-30025
Apply educational theories to address real-world challenges in educational settings	Educational Policy: Making Change - EDU-30132
Identify, design and conduct an original educational research study, recognising the importance of ethics, applying theoretical and methodological frameworks and using appropriate tools to analyse findings.	Independent Research Project - ISP - EDU-30071
Develop a personal and professional roadmap for navigating future educational change and propose alternatives for the future.	All level 6 Education modules
Recognise, interpret and evaluate theories, concepts and research in defined areas at the forefront of philosophy	All level 6 Philosophy modules
Apply philosophical and educational theories and methods of inquiry to understanding and determining a personal stance on new and unfamiliar problems in areas of current research activity	All level 6 Education and Philosophy modules
Demonstrate a critical understanding of philosophical and educational theories and concepts as applied to areas of contemporary relevance	All level 6 Education and Philosophy modules
Critically assess the research literature in a specific area of philosophical or educational interest	All level 6 Education and Philosophy modules

Subject Specific Skills	
Learning Outcome	Module in which this is delivered
Reflect on own practice to identify areas for improvement and professional development.	All level 6 Education and Philosophy modules
Assess complex texts and identify possible directions for further theoretical and / or empirical research in education or philosophy.	All level 6 Education and Philosophy modules
Evaluate the increasing complexity of educational and pedagogic knowledge.	All level 6 Education modules
Describe and make critical judgements about developments in current areas of philosophical research	All level 6 Philosophy modules
Critically evaluate primary and secondary source material, synthesise arguments, and present discussions in written form.	All level 6 Education and Philosophy modules
Assess usefulness and application of educational knowledge in the context of a range of possible careers and opportunities involving children and young people.	All level 6 Education modules
Communicate ideas effectively and fluently, informed by contemporary research in philosophy both orally and in writing	All level 6 Philosophy modules
Formulate research questions and identify appropriate research strategies to address them	All level 6 Education and Philosophy modules
Manage their own learning, making use of appropriate materials in a current area of philosophical or educational research	All level 6 Education and Philosophy modules

Key or Transferable Skills (graduate attributes)	
Learning Outcome	Module in which this is delivered
Construct a range of strategies and methods for answering research questions and testing hypothesis	All level 6 Philosophy and Education modules
Locate, review, evaluate and analyse literature and empirical data on a research topic.	All level 6 Philosophy and Education modules
Mobilize advanced written and oral skills into different personal and professional settings.	All level 6 Philosophy and Education modules
Understand the ways in which pedagogic knowledge can be transformative for the lives of children and young people and how that can be mobilized in practice.	All level 6 Philosophy and Education modules
Become a critical thinker, someone who challenges ideas, interprets and questions evidence	All level 6 Philosophy and Education modules
Work as part of a team; learn to listen, understand, and respect the views of others; and to produce a collective output.	All level 6 Philosophy and Education modules
Learn from feedback and experience in tutorials, reflecting on your actions, acting on learning points, and engaging in the process of continuous learning.	All level 6 Philosophy and Education modules
Work productively in a largely unstructured context exercising initiative and personal responsibility	All level 6 Philosophy and Education modules
Make decisions and plan activity in uncertain and unpredictable contexts	All level 6 Philosophy and Education modules
Take responsibility for planning, reflecting and reviewing progress on career aspirations	Engaged Social Science - SSC-30005
Be honest, act ethically, uphold personal morals in academic and workplace settings, respecting the views of others.	Engaged Social Science - SSC-30005

9. Final and intermediate awards

Credits required for each level of academic award are as follows:

Honours Degree		You will require at least 120 credits at levels 4, 5 and 6
BA (Hons) Philosophy and Education	360 credits	You must accumulate at least 270 credits in your main subject (out of 360 credits overall), with at least 90 credits in each of the three years of study, to graduate with a named single honours degree in this subject.
Diploma in Higher Education	240 credits	You will require at least 120 credits at level 4 or higher and at least 120 credits at level 5 or higher
Certificate in Higher Education	120 credits	You will require at least 120 credits at level 4 or higher

International Year option: in addition to the above students must pass a module covering the international year in order to graduate with a named degree including the 'international year' wording. Students who do not complete, or fail the international year, will be transferred to the three-year version of the programme.

Work Placement Year option: in addition to the above students must pass a non-credit bearing module covering the work placement year in order to graduate with a named degree including the 'with Work Placement Year' wording. Students who do not complete, or fail the work placement year, will be transferred to the three-year version of the programme.

Entrepreneurship Year option: in addition to the above students must pass a non-credit bearing module covering the Entrepreneurship Year in order to graduate with a named degree including the 'with Entrepreneurship Year' wording. Students who do not complete, or fail the Entrepreneurship Year, will be transferred to the three-year version of the programme.

10. How is the Programme Assessed?

The wide variety of assessment methods used on this programme at Keele reflects the broad range of knowledge and skills that are developed as you progress through the degree programme. Teaching staff pay particular attention to specifying clear assessment criteria and providing timely, regular and constructive feedback that helps to clarify things you did not understand and helps you to improve your performance. The following list is representative of the variety of assessment methods used on your programme:

- Essays provide students with the opportunity to formulate arguments and develop ideas using evidence obtained from library research or other valid sources. As such, the essay assessment enables students to develop their research skills, which involve the ability to sort legitimate from illegitimate source materials, and other academic conventions, such as referencing.
- Oral Presentations assess students' subject knowledge and understanding. They may also test their ability to work effectively as members of a team, to communicate what they know orally and visually to a range of different stakeholders, and to reflect on these processes as part of their own personal development.
- Reflective Diaries require students to write a reflexive account of their experiences of school and university and link these experiences to learning theory acquired in the classroom. The purpose of this assessment is to encourage students to reflect on their own experiences in order to become more successful learners as well as preparing them for reflexive practice in the classroom or other settings involving young people.
- Case Studies provide an opportunity for students to not only undertake a 'deep dive' into the surrounding area of North Staffordshire but also to explore how particular patterns of localized inequality contribute to unequal educational outcomes. This allows students to find 'best-fit' and practical, pragmatic solution to real-world problems.
- Book Reviews test students' ability to summarise the key points of scholarly work and evaluate the arguments of particular authors in light of seminal educational theories. This therefore allows them to critically challenge and interrogate dominant and taken-for-granted narratives.
- The Research Proposal requires students to design and develop an independent research project and think through theoretical problems surrounding methodology and practical concerns relating to, for example, availability of sample, financial restrictions, and time limits. Again, this form of assessment is key to the development of independent research skills and a portfolio of employability skills.
- Oral History Interviews require students to actively engage with older people and conduct interviews to gain an understanding of their memories of their own school experiences. This is important for developing key inter-personal and inter-generational skills which students can reflect on as they identify differences across time thereby using forms of collaboration as a means to promote social change,
- Creating digital resources such as a blog or vlog exposes students to key aspects of digital education and learning and encourages them to present content in ways which are imaginative and engages a wide variety of stakeholders including more marginalized communities. Such dissemination is crucial to promoting access and is an important tool for future educators.
- The Dissertation allows students to undertake a significant piece of their own research under supervision by a research-active member of staff and make use of their theoretical and practical learning on the programme to formulate this significant piece of work.

Marks are awarded for summative assessments designed to assess your achievement of learning outcomes. You will also be assessed formatively to enable you to monitor your own progress and to assist staff in identifying and addressing any specific learning needs. Feedback, including guidance on how you can improve the quality of your work, is also provided on all summative assessments within three working weeks of submission, unless there are compelling circumstances that make this impossible, and more informally in the course of tutorial and seminar discussions.

11. Contact Time and Expected Workload

This contact time measure is intended to provide you with an indication of the type of activity you are likely to undertake during this programme. The data is compiled based on module choices and learning patterns of students on similar programmes in previous years. Every effort is made to ensure this data is a realistic representation of what you are likely to experience, but changes to programmes, teaching methods and

assessment methods mean this data is representative and not specific.

Undergraduate courses at Keele contain an element of module choice; therefore, individual students will experience a different mix of contact time and assessment types dependent upon their own individual choice of modules. The figures below are an example of activities that a student may expect on your chosen course by year stage of study. Contact time includes scheduled activities such as: lecture, seminar, tutorial, project supervision, demonstration, practical classes and labs, supervised time in labs/workshop, fieldwork and external visits. The figures are based on 1,200 hours of student effort each year for full-time students.

Activity

	Scheduled learning and teaching activities	Guided independent Study	Placements
Year 1 (Level 4)	17.3%	82.7%	0%
Year 2 (Level 5)	15%	79.2%	5.8%
Year 3 (Level 6)	18%	82%	0%

12. Accreditation

This programme does not have accreditation from an external body.

13. University Regulations

The University Regulations form the framework for learning, teaching and assessment and other aspects of the student experience. Further information about the University Regulations can be found at:

<http://www.keele.ac.uk/student-agreement/>

If this programme has any exemptions, variations or additions to the University Regulations these will be detailed in an Annex at the end of this document titled 'Programme-specific regulations'.

14. What are the typical admission requirements for the Programme?

See the relevant course page on the website for the admission requirements relevant to this programme:

<https://www.keele.ac.uk/study/>

English for Academic Purposes

Please note: All new international students entering the university will provide a sample of Academic English during their registration. Using this sample, the Language Centre may allocate you to an English language module which will become compulsory. This will replace any GCP modules. *NB:* students can take an EAP module only with the approval of the English Language Programme Director and are not able to take any other Language modules in the same academic year.

English Language Modules at Level 4:

- Business - ENL-90003 Academic English for Business Students (Part 1); ENL-90004 Academic English for Business Students (2)
- Science - ENL-90013 Academic English for Science Students
- General - ENL-90006 English for Academic Purposes 2; ENL-90001 English for Academic Purposes 3; ENL-90002 English for Academic Purposes 4

English Language Modules at Level 5:

- Business - ENL-90003 Academic English for Business Students (Part 1); ENL-90004 Academic English for Business Students (2)
- Science - ENL-90013 Academic English for Science Students
- General - ENL-90006 English for Academic Purposes 2; ENL-90001 English for Academic Purposes 3; ENL-90002 English for Academic Purposes 4

English Language Modules at Level 6:

- Business - ENL-90003 Academic English for Business Students (Part 1); ENL-90004 Academic English for Business Students (2); ENL-90005 Advanced Business English Communication
- Science - ENL-90013 Academic English for Science Students
- General - ENL-90006 English for Academic Purposes 2; ENL-90001 English for Academic Purposes 3; ENL-90002 English for Academic Purposes 4

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) is considered on a case-by-case basis and those interested should contact the Programme Director. The University's guidelines on this can be found here: <https://www.keele.ac.uk/qa/programmesandmodules/recognitionofpriorlearning/>

15. How are students supported on the programme?

Support for student learning on the Programme is provided in the following ways:

- Module and seminar group leaders are responsible for providing support for learning on the modules and in the seminar groups for which they are responsible. There is opportunity for formative feedback for all summative assessments and opportunities to discuss this formative work are built into each module.
- Every student is allocated to an Academic Mentor who is responsible for reviewing and advising on students' academic progress. The University has a team of life and learning developers based in Student Services who are responsible for supporting students and enhancing their ability to access the curriculum and everything else that the University has to offer throughout their time at Keele.
- Academic Mentors also act as a first point of contact for students on non-academic issues which may affect their learning and can refer students on to Student Services for additional help in relation to health, disability, welfare, finance and careers. Specialist help and advice on these and other issues is also available for international students.
- The School of Social Science also has a dedicated student experience and support officer.
- All members of teaching staff in Education and Philosophy are available to see students during weekly office hours and at other times by appointment. These meetings take place in person or online.

16. Learning Resources

Philosophy and Education is taught in teaching rooms equipped with computers, internet access, whiteboards, and projection equipment. Rooms may be arranged either in traditional lecture format or more informally to allow students to work together in small groups.

The learning resources available to students on the Programme include:

- An extensive collection of materials relevant to undergraduate study in Education and Philosophy is held in the University Library. These materials include books, journals, and government publications. Much of this material is also accessible online to Keele students from anywhere in the world with a University username and password.
- The Keele Learning Environment (KLE) which provides easy access to a wide range of learning resources including lecture notes, digitised readings (electronic materials available in a repository maintained by the University Library), and other resources - video, audio and text-based - accessible from external providers via the internet.
- Most modules have electronic resource lists generated using Talis Aspire, a software package that allows students to access online journal articles, digitised readings, websites and other resources by clicking on links in a single document.
- Students for whom English is not their first language are offered language classes, facilities and services by the University's Language Centre. In addition to credit-bearing modules on English for academic study, students also have access to one-to-one tutorials for individual help and advice, and to a wealth of resources for self-study and practice.

17. Other Learning Opportunities

Study abroad (semester)

Students on the programme have the potential opportunity to spend a semester abroad in their second year studying at one of Keele's international partner universities. Please note that students cannot take both a Global Challenge Pathway (GCP) and the semester abroad option.

Exactly which countries are available depends on the student's choice of degree subjects. An indicative list of countries is on the website (<http://www.keele.ac.uk/studyabroad/partneruniversities/>); however this does not guarantee the availability of study in a specific country as this is subject to the University's application process for studying abroad.

No additional tuition fees are payable for a single semester studying abroad but students do have to bear the costs of travelling to and from their destination university, accommodation, food and personal costs. Depending

on the destination they are studying at additional costs may include visas, study permits, residence permits, and compulsory health checks. Students should expect the total costs of studying abroad to be greater than if they study in the UK, information is made available from the Global Education Team throughout the process, as costs will vary depending on destination.

Whilst students are studying abroad any Student Finance eligibility will continue, where applicable students may be eligible for specific travel or disability grants. Students who meet external eligibility criteria may be eligible for grants as part of this programme. Students studying outside of this programme may be eligible for income dependent bursaries at Keele. Students travel on a comprehensive Keele University insurance plan, for which there are currently no additional charges. Some governments and/or universities require additional compulsory health coverage plans; costs for this will be advised during the application process.

Study Abroad (International Year)

A summary of the International Year, which is a potential option for students after completion of year 2 (Level 5), is provided in the Annex for the International Year.

Work Placement Year

Students have the opportunity to apply directly for the 4-year 'with Work Placement Year' degree programme or to transfer onto the 4-year degree programme at the end of Year-1 and in Year-2 at the end of Semester 1. Students who are initially registered for the 4-year degree programme may transfer onto the 3-year degree programme at any point in time, prior to undertaking their year-long placement. Eligibility rules are included in the Annex.

Students wishing to take the work placement year should meet with the Programme Director to obtain their signature to confirm agreement before they will be allowed to commence their placement.

International students who require a Tier 4 visa must check with the Immigration Compliance Team prior to commencing any form of placement.

A summary of the Work Placement Year, which is a potential option for students after completion of year 2 (Level 5), is provided in the Annex for the Work Placement Year.

Entrepreneurship Year

Students have the opportunity to apply directly for the 4-year 'with Entrepreneurship Year' degree programme or to transfer onto the 4-year degree programme at the end of Year-1 and in Year-2 at the end of Semester 1. Students who are initially registered for the 4-year degree programme may transfer onto the 3-year degree programme at any point in time, prior to undertaking their year-long placement. To be eligible for the entrepreneurship year, students must have a good University attendance record. They must also have passed all Year 1 and Year 2 Semester 1 assessments. Students must have met the progression requirements to proceed to their final year of study prior to commencing a placement. Students will be required to put forward a proposal, give a short presentation and attend an interview prior to being accepted onto this module.

18. Additional Costs

Mandatory costs

You can expect some additional costs as a student on this course, which may support learning activities, specialist equipment, fieldwork, placements, or other course-related requirements. Details of these mandatory costs are outlined below to help you plan accordingly.

£120: field trip costs

Optional costs

In addition to the mandatory costs listed below, there may be optional costs that students can choose to incur to enhance their learning experience. These are not required to complete the course. Details of these optional costs are outlined below to help you plan accordingly.

Optional 4-week US Summer School trip:

Estimated maximum total cost (after taking into account Turing scheme funding): £820 for Widening Access students; £1675 for other students. (Estimated maximum cost of £2220 (£950 for flights; £1250 for accommodation; £20 for visa waiver application) to be sourced by student, in addition to usual subsistence costs. Based on 2025 figures, Turing funding is expected to reimburse student costs to a value of approximately £1400 for Widening Access students, and approximately £545 for other students.)

Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS)

Students who take one of our optional Work Placement modules, or our Work Placement year, may need to apply for a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check, if they plan to work with e.g. schools and charities.

Students will be provided with instructions on how to apply for a DBS check, including a link to apply via a company called Ucheck. There is also an online DBS update service to sign up for once the DBS certificate has been received, which allows employers to check DBS status and lets students keep their DBS certificates up to date online.

Activity	Estimated Cost
Mandatory costs	
Field trip costs:	£120
Optional costs	
Optional field courses (for students taking 'Education Placement') - DBS check:	£60.70*
Registration with the DBS update service:	£16* per year
Optional 4-week US Summer School trip:	£820 for Widening Access students; £1675 for other students
Total estimated additional costs	£120 - £1,903.70

*The current costs for a DBS check are detailed on the additional costs webpage:

<https://www.keele.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/tuitionfeesandfunding/undergraduatetuitionfees/additionalcosts>

These costs have been forecast by the University as accurately as possible but may be subject to change as a result of factors outside of our control (for example, increase in costs for external services). Forecast costs are reviewed on an annual basis to ensure they remain representative. Where additional costs are in direct control of the University we will ensure increases do not exceed 5%.

Students may also incur general expenses related to university study, such as for printing, textbooks and other materials. Students who undertake a placement may be responsible for additional costs, such as travel, accommodation, and subsistence costs. For further information, please refer to the [additional costs](#) information.

19. Quality management and enhancement

The quality and standards of learning in this programme are subject to a continuous process of monitoring, review and enhancement.

- The School Education Committee is responsible for reviewing and monitoring quality management and enhancement procedures and activities across the School.
- Individual modules and the programme as a whole are reviewed and enhanced every year in the annual programme review which takes place at the end of the academic year.
- The programmes are run in accordance with the University's Quality Assurance procedures and are subject to periodic reviews under the Revalidation process.

Student evaluation of, and feedback on, the quality of learning on every module takes place every year using a variety of different methods:

- The results of student evaluations of all modules are reported to module leaders and reviewed by the Programme Committee as part of annual programme review.
- Findings related to the programme from the annual National Student Survey (NSS), and from regular surveys of the student experience conducted by the University, are subjected to careful analysis and a planned response at programme and School level.
- Feedback received from representatives of students in all three years of the programme is considered and acted on at regular meetings of the Student Staff Voice Committee.

The University appoints senior members of academic staff from other universities to act as external examiners on all programmes. They are responsible for:

- Approving examination questions
- Confirming all marks which contribute to a student's degree
- Reviewing and giving advice on the structure and content of the programme and assessment procedures

Information about current external examiner(s) can be found here:

<http://www.keele.ac.uk/qa/externalexaminers/currentexternalexaminers/>

20. The principles of programme design

The programme described in this document has been drawn up with reference to, and in accordance with the guidance set out in, the following documents:

a. UK Quality Code for Higher Education, Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education:

<http://www.qaa.ac.uk/quality-code>

b. QAA Subject Benchmark Statement: Education <https://www.qaa.ac.uk/the-quality-code/subject-benchmark-statements/subject-benchmark-statement-education-studies> and Philosophy <https://www.qaa.ac.uk/the-quality-code/subject-benchmark-statements/subject-benchmark-statement-philosophy>

c. Keele University Regulations and Guidance for Students and Staff: <http://www.keele.ac.uk/regulations>

21. Annex - International Year

Philosophy and Education with International Year

International Year Programme
<p>Students registered for this Single Honours programme may either be admitted for or apply to transfer during their period of study at Level 5 to the International Year option. Students accepted onto this option will have an extra year of study (the International Year) at an international partner institution after they have completed Year 2 (Level 5) at Keele.</p> <p>Students who successfully complete both the second year (Level 5) and the International Year will be permitted to progress to Level 6. Students who fail to satisfy the examiners in respect of the International Year will normally revert to the standard programme and progress to Level 6 on that basis. The failure will be recorded on the student's final transcript.</p> <p>Study at Level 4, Level 5 and Level 6 will be as per the main body of this document. The additional detail contained in this annex will pertain solely to students registered for the International Year option.</p>
International Year Programme Aims
<p>In addition to the programme aims specified in the main body of this document, the international year programme of study aims to provide students with:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Personal development as a student and a researcher with an appreciation of the international dimension of their subject2. Experience of a different culture, academically, professionally and socially
Entry Requirements for the International Year

Students may apply to the 4-year programme during Level 5. Admission to the International Year is subject to successful application, interview and references from appropriate staff.

The criteria to be applied are:

- Academic Performance (an average of 55% across all modules in Semester 1 at Level 5 is normally required. Places on the International Year are then conditional on achieving an average mark of 55% across all Level 5 modules. Students with up to 15 credits of re-assessment who meet the 55% requirement may progress to the International Year. Where no Semester 1 marks have been awarded performance in 1st year marks and ongoing 2nd year assessments are taken into account)
- General Aptitude (to be demonstrated by application for study abroad, interview during the 2nd semester of year 2 (Level 5), and by recommendation of the student's Academic Mentor, 1st and 2nd year tutors and programme director)

Students may not register for both an International Year and a Placement Year.

Student Support

Students will be supported whilst on the International Year via the following methods:

- Phone or Skype conversations with Study Abroad tutor, in line with recommended Academic Mentoring meeting points.
- Support from the University's Global Education Team

Learning Outcomes

In addition to the learning outcomes specified in the main text of the Programme Specification, students who complete a Keele undergraduate programme with International Year will be able to:

1. Describe, discuss and reflect upon the cultural and international differences and similarities of different learning environments
2. Discuss the benefits and challenges of global citizenship and internationalisation
3. Explain how their perspective on their academic discipline has been influenced by locating it within an international setting.
4. Have a first-hand experience of the differences between different countries education systems and the ways in which wider factors e.g. political, social, economic impact on provision.

These learning outcomes will all be assessed by the submission of a satisfactory individual learning agreement, the successful completion of assessments at the partner institution and the submission of the reflective portfolio element of the international year module.

Regulations

Students registered for the International Year are subject to the programme-specific regulations (if any) and the University regulations. In addition, during the International Year, the following regulations will apply:

Students undertaking the International Year must complete 120 credits, which must comprise *at least 40%* in the student's discipline area.

This may impact on your choice of modules to study, for example you will have to choose certain modules to ensure you have the discipline specific credits required.

Students are barred from studying any module with significant overlap to the Level 6 modules they will study on their return. Significant overlap with Level 5 modules previously studied should also be avoided.

Additional costs for the International Year

Tuition fees for students on the International Year will be charged at 15% of the annual tuition fees for that year of study, as set out in Section 1. The International Year can be included in your Student Finance allocation, to find out more about your personal eligibility see: www.gov.uk

Students will have to bear the costs of travelling to and from their destination university, accommodation, food and personal costs. Depending on the destination they are studying at additional costs may include visas, study permits, residence permits, and compulsory health checks. Students should expect the total costs of studying abroad be greater than if they study in the UK, information is made available from the Global Education Team throughout the process, as costs will vary depending on destination.

Students who meet external eligibility criteria may be eligible for grants as part of this programme. Students studying outside of this programme may be eligible income dependent bursaries at Keele.

Students travel on a comprehensive Keele University insurance plan, for which there are currently no additional charges. Some Governments and/or universities require additional compulsory health coverage plans; costs for this will be advised during the application process.

22. Annex - Work Placement Year

Philosophy and Education with Work Placement Year

Work Placement Year summary

Students registered for this programme may either be admitted for or apply to transfer during their studies to the 'with Work Placement Year' option (NB: for Combined Honours students the rules relating to the work placement year in the subject where the placement is organised are to be followed). Students accepted onto this programme will have an extra year of study (the Work Placement Year) with a relevant placement provider after they have completed Year 2 (Level 5) at Keele.

Students who successfully complete both the second year (Level 5) and the Work Placement Year will be permitted to progress to Level 6. Students who fail to satisfactorily complete the Work Placement Year will normally revert to the 3-year programme and progress to Level 6 on that basis. The failure will be recorded on the student's final transcript.

Study at Level 4, Level 5 and Level 6 will be as per the main body of this document. The additional detail contained in this annex will pertain solely to students registered for the Work Placement Year option.

Work Placement Year Programme Aims

In addition to the programme aims specified in the main body of this document, the Work Placement Year aims to provide students with:

1. The opportunity to carry out a long-term, placement-based learning experience between Years 2 and 3 of their degree programme
2. Enhanced employability
3. The opportunity to develop and consolidate the knowledge and skills they have gained during the course of their studies at Level 4 and 5
4. A professional CV and portfolio that they can use when applying for employment

Entry Requirements for the Work Placement Year

Admission to the Work Placement Year is subject to successful application, interview and references from appropriate staff. Students have the opportunity to apply directly for the 4-year 'with work placement year' degree programme, or to transfer onto the 4-year programme at the end of Year-1 and in Year-2 at the end of Semester 1. Students who are initially registered for the 4-year degree programme may transfer onto the 3-year degree programme at any point in time, prior to undertaking the year-long work placement. Students who fail to pass the work placement year, and those who fail to meet the minimum requirements of the work placement year module, (* or equivalent, work placement), will be automatically transferred onto the 3-year degree programme.

* We recommend where possible students undertake a placement of between 9 - 12 months on a full-time basis to maximize academic and personal growth. However, the Work Placement Year mandates a minimum of 24 weeks in duration, ideally on a full-time basis, but no less than 21 hours per week. This enables those undertaking an unpaid placement to work on a part-time basis alongside.

The criteria to be applied are:

- A good University attendance record and be in 'good academic standing'.
- Academic Performance (an average of 50% across all modules in Semester 1 at Level 5 is normally required. Places on the Work Placement Year are then conditional on achieving an average mark of 50% across all Level 5 modules. Students with up to 15 credits of re-assessment who meet the 50% requirement may progress to the Work Placement Year. Where no Semester 1 marks have been awarded performance in 1st year marks and ongoing 2nd year assessments are taken into account)
- Students undertaking work placements will be expected to complete a Health and Safety checklist prior to commencing their work experience and will be required to satisfy the Health and Safety regulations of the company or organisation at which they are based.
- (*International students only*) Due to visa requirements, it is not possible for international students who require a Tier 4 Visa to apply for direct entry onto the 4-year with Work Placement Year degree programme. Students wishing to transfer onto this programme should discuss this with student support, the academic tutor for the work placement year, and the Programme Lead. Students should be aware that there are visa implications for this transfer, and it is the student's responsibility to complete any and all necessary processes to be eligible for this programme. There may be additional costs, including applying for a new Visa from outside of the UK for international students associated with a transfer to the work placement programme.

Students may not register for both an International Year and a Work Placement Year.

Student Support

Students will be supported whilst on the Work Placement Year via the following methods:

- Regular contact between the student and a named member of staff who will be assigned to the student as their University supervisor. The University supervisor will be in regular contact with the student throughout the year, and be on hand to provide advice (pastoral or academic) and liaise with the Placement supervisor on the student's behalf if required.
- Two formal contacts with the student during the placement year: the University supervisor will visit the student in their placement organization at around 5 weeks after the placement has commenced, and then visit again (or conduct a telephone/video call tutorial) at around 15 weeks into the placement.
- Weekly supervision sessions will take place with the placement supervisor (or his/her nominee) throughout the duration of the placement.

Learning Outcomes

In addition to the learning outcomes specified in the main text of the Programme Specification, students who complete the 'with Work Placement Year' option will be able to:

1. Understand the variety of ways in which skills developed during the study of Social Sciences can be deployed in non-academic contexts
2. Assess their own strengths and weaknesses in an employment context through a SWOT analysis, design learning outcomes, and reflect on their own progress throughout the module
3. Articulate their placement experiences effectively and critically reflect on their enhanced skill set in front of an audience
4. Understand the aims and priorities, as well as the strengths and possible limitations, of an external organisation and complete tasks as directed
5. Reflect on and critically evaluate their learning from the work placement, showing evidence that they have researched their sector and evaluated the effectiveness of their activities with this in mind.

These learning outcomes will be assessed through the non-credit bearing Work Placement Year module (SOC-30051) which involves:

1. Supporting students in locating and securing a relevant work placement in any workplace where the research, analytical, and communication skills as a developed part of a Social, Political and Global Studies degree can be used
2. Students completing a SWOT analysis (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats) at the beginning of the placement, reflecting on their employability skills in terms of their assessment of sector skill demands. This will be used to create Intended Placement Outcomes and contribute to Continuing Professional Development. The action plan will be negotiated and agreed by the student, module convenor and employer.
3. Students creating a professional CV and portfolio that can be used when seeking employment after graduation
4. Students completing a 15-20 minute presentation in June/July, critically reflecting on the activities/projects they have completed so far, and the skills they have learned/developed. The audience will primarily be other students on this module, to ensure shared experiences and to create connections in preparation for returning to Keele for third year (Level 6)
5. Students developing a heightened awareness of the various ways in which their knowledge and skills can be utilised in real-world situations

Regulations

Students registered for the 'with Work Placement Year' option are subject to programme-specific regulations (if any) and the University regulations. In addition, during the Work Placement Year, the following regulations will apply:

- Students undertaking the Work Placement Year must successfully complete the zero-credit rated Work Placement Year module (SOC-30051)
- In order to ensure a high quality placement experience, each placement agency will sign up to a placement contract (analogous to a service level agreement).
- Once a student has been accepted by a placement organisation, the student will make a pre-placement visit and a member of staff identified within the placement contract will be assigned as the placement supervisor. The placement supervisor will be responsible for ensuring that the placement experience meets the agreed contract agreed with the University.
- The placement student will also sign up an agreement outlining his/her responsibilities in relation to the requirements of each organisation.

Students will be expected to behave professionally in terms of:

(i) conforming to the work practices of the organisation; and

(ii) remembering that they are representatives of the University and their actions will reflect on the School and have an impact on that organisation's willingness (or otherwise) to remain engaged with the placement.

Additional costs for the Work Placement Year

Tuition fees for students on the Work Placement Year will be charged at 20% of the annual tuition fees for that year of study, as set out in Section 1. The Work Placement Year can be included in your Student Finance allocation; to find out more about your personal eligibility see: www.gov.uk

Students will have to bear the costs of travelling to and from their placement provider, accommodation, food and personal costs. Depending on the placement provider additional costs may include parking permits, travel and transport, suitable clothing, DBS checks, and compulsory health checks.

A small stipend may be available to students from the placement provider during the placement but this will need to be explored on a placement-by-placement basis as some organisations, such as charities, may not have any extra money available. Students should budget with the assumption that their placement will be unpaid.

Eligibility for student finance will depend on the type of placement and whether it is paid or not. If it is paid, this is likely to affect student finance eligibility, however if it is voluntary and therefore unpaid, should not affect student finance eligibility. Students are required to confirm eligibility with their student finance provider.

International students who require a Tier 4 visa should check with the Immigration Compliance team prior to commencing any type of paid placement to ensure that they are not contravening their visa requirements.

Version History

This document

Date Approved: 24 April 2026

Previous documents

Version No	Year	Owner	Date Approved	Summary of and rationale for changes
1	2025/26	EDWARD MCCAULEY	11 April 2025	