

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Course Title	PgC Paediatric Imaging
Awarding Bodies	University of Suffolk
Level of Award ¹	FHEQ Level 7
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies Recognition	College of Radiographers (approval pending)
Credit Structure ²	60 Credits at level 7
Mode of Attendance	Part-time
Standard Length of Course ³	1 year part-time
Intended Award	Postgraduate certificate in Paediatric Imaging
Named Exit Awards	None
Entry Requirements ⁴	• Holder of a BSc (Hons) Degree in Diagnostic Radiography/ Diploma of the College of Radiographers (Diagnostic Radiography) • Current registration with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) All applications will be reviewed for their suitability by the course lead. This course is not open to visa sponsored students (those students sponsored by the University under the student route)
Delivering Institution	University of Suffolk

This definitive record sets out the essential features and characteristics of the postgraduate certificate in Paediatric Imaging course. The information provided is accurate for students entering level 7 in the 2027/2028 academic year⁵.

Course Summary

This postgraduate certificate in Paediatric Imaging has been designed to support and advance the specialist practice of radiographers working with children and young people. According to the 2023/2024 Diagnostic Imaging Dataset Annual Statistical Release 2,683,880 imaging examinations were performed in patients aged 0–14 years (NHS England, 2024). With such a significant volume of paediatric imaging taking place each year, it is essential that

¹ For an explanation of the levels of higher education study, see the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2024\)](#)

² All academic credit awarded as a result of study at the University adheres to the [Higher education credit framework for England](#).

³ Where the course is delivered both full-time and part-time, the standard length of course is provided for the full-time mode of attendance only. The length of the part-time course is variable and dependent upon the intensity of study. Further information about mode of study and maximum registration periods can be found in the [Framework and Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Awards](#).

⁴ Details of standard entry requirements can be found in the [Admissions Policy](#) and further details about Disclosure and Barring Checks (DBS) can be found on the [University's DBS webpage](#).

⁵ The University reserves the right to make changes to course content, structure, teaching and assessment as outlined in the [Admissions Policy](#).

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radiographers are thoroughly prepared and possess the knowledge, technical skills, and professional competence required to ensure a safe, effective, and positive experience for both the child and their families/carers.

Paediatric imaging presents unique challenges that differ considerably from adults. Children can vary widely in their developmental, anatomical, and physiological characteristics. This requires tailored imaging approaches across all modalities. Paediatric-specific pathologies including congenital abnormalities, trauma and oncology will be covered in the first module of this course. Furthermore, we will explore effective communication, safeguarding and the ability to adapt approaches to the child's age, needs and emotional state.

Despite the complexity surrounding paediatric radiography, undergraduate radiography programmes often provide limited preparation for the imaging of children and young people. As a result, many radiographers work with paediatric patients without substantial formal education or training in this specialist area. This course has therefore been developed to bridge this gap by equipping radiographers with robust, evidence-based knowledge and the associated clinical decision-making skills required in paediatric imaging.

The curriculum also recognises that advancing practice extends beyond knowledge-based skill. Students will explore leadership principles, research skills, and change initiatives to support the enhancement of paediatric imaging services within their departments.

The impetus for developing this programme has come directly from our practice partners who have expressed a clear need for postgraduate education in paediatric imaging. With limited paediatric-specific postgraduate provision currently available in the UK, this course addresses an important gap in both higher education and professional practice.

Please note: Full completion of the course and subsequent academic award does not lead to automatic enhanced or advanced practitioner status

Course Aims

In providing this course, the university and the course team aim to provide you with the:

1. Knowledge and understanding to achieve the level of expertise associated with enhanced practice in paediatric diagnostic imaging
2. Interpersonal and communication skills to actively participate in a range of multi-disciplinary teams, to provide optimum service user care and innovation in the service development of paediatric imaging
3. Critical and reflective skills to explore the knowledge and ability required to lead, educate and motivate others in the workplace

Course Learning Outcomes

The following statements define what students graduating from the postgraduate certificate in Paediatric Imaging course will have been judged to have demonstrated in order to achieve the award. These statements, known as learning outcomes, have been formally approved as aligned with the generic qualification descriptor for level 7 awards as set out by the UK Quality Assurance Agency (QAA)⁶.

⁶ As set out in the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2024\)](#)

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On successful completion of this course, you will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an in-depth knowledge and understanding of holistic child development and effectively apply this to practice
2. Develop your existing knowledge and experience in order to evidence a comprehensive understanding of paediatric physiology and pathology and accurately identify these on a range of diagnostic images
3. Expand your knowledge and critically evaluate a range of diagnostic modalities for paediatric imaging
4. Assimilate and critically appraise relevant contemporary research, legislation and professional guidance to ensure the provision of safe evidence-based practice
5. Demonstrate a systematic understanding and critical awareness of paediatric imaging pathways, together with an in-depth consideration of the complexities affecting person-centred care and paediatric service provision
6. Demonstrate reflective practice to enhance clinical competence, recognising personal limitations and actively maintaining wellbeing and resilience in the delivery of paediatric imaging.
7. Actively contribute to the multi-disciplinary team, demonstrating leadership when appropriate and critically appraising your contribution to collaborative decision-making and patient-centred care.

Course Design

The design of this course has been guided by the following QAA Benchmarks / Professional Standards / [name of PSRB] Competency Frameworks:

- College of Radiographers (CoR) Education and Career Framework (CoR, 2022)
- Multi-professional Framework for Advanced Clinical Practice in England (NHS England, 2017)
- QAA Characteristics Statement for Master's Degrees (2020)
- QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies (2024)
- HCPC Standards of Proficiency for Radiographers (2023)
- The Radiological Investigation of Suspected Physical Abuse in Children (RCR & SCoR, 2018)

Course Structure

The postgraduate certificate in Paediatric Imaging comprises modules at level 7.

Module Specifications for each of these modules is included within the course handbook, available to students on-line at the beginning of each academic year.

	Module	Credits	Module Type ⁷
Level 7			
1	Diagnostic Imaging of the Paediatric Patient	30	M
2	Suspected Physical Abuse in Paediatrics	30	M

⁷ Modules are designated as either mandatory (M), requisite (R) or optional (O). For definitions, see the [Framework and Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Awards](#)

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Awards

On successful completion of the course, students will be awarded a postgraduate certificate in Paediatric Imaging.

Course Delivery

Students studying on the postgraduate certificate in Paediatric Imaging are likely to have approximately 600 study hours in total for the duration of the 60-credit course. The contact hours will be a mix of synchronous and asynchronous activities. These will primarily be delivered virtually, synchronously consisting of traditional lectures, tutorials and workshops and activities hosted in the online learning environment, including quizzes, guided reading and engagement with multi-media tasks (asynchronous). There is no expectation for students to attend campus for teaching sessions, other than the one-day induction at the beginning of the course and a workshop day in the second module. However, students will have full access to resources and learning spaces such as the library, should they wish to utilise them. Students will normally be expected to undertake independent study and should be prepared for this to vary based on assignment deadlines and class exercises.

Course Assessment

A variety of assessments will be used on the course to enable students to experience and adapt to different assessment styles. The assessment methods used will be appropriate to assess each module's intended learning outcomes. Assessment on the course overall will be approximately 50% coursework (including essays, reports, presentations, group work, reflective learning journals and research projects) and 50% examinations (including objective structured examinations and viva voces). There is a requirement for students to attend campus for a summative assessment.

Special Features

The postgraduate certificate in Paediatric Imaging course is accredited by the College of Radiographers.

This is the one of seven postgraduate courses within the University's radiography portfolio. The university also offers a MSc/PgD Professional Practice: Advancing Radiography Practice (Progression Route), allowing successful students from this postgraduate certificate to progress to a Master's qualification.

Course Team

The academic staff delivering this course are drawn from a team that includes teaching specialists and current practitioners. All staff are qualified in their subjects with their own specialist knowledge to contribute and are registered with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC).

Course Costs

Students undertaking postgraduate certificate in Paediatric Imaging will be charged tuition fees as detailed below.

Student Group	Tuition Fees
Part-time UK	£1,710 per 30 credit module
Part-time EU/International	£2,749.8 per 30 credit module

Payment of tuition fees is due at the time of enrolment and is managed in accordance with the Tuition Fee Policy.

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Academic Framework and Regulations

This course is delivered according to the Framework and Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Awards and other academic policies and procedures of the University and published on the [website](#).