



September 2020

Dear Secondary History Trainees

We are very much looking forward to meeting you all when you arrive at St Lukes during the week commencing Monday 28th September.

We urge you to register as quickly as you can and at least in time for day 1. Once you have registered, you will be able to access your emails, timetable and your Exeter Learning Environment (ELE) pages. There will be a great deal of information to take in, but please be assured that your Tutors will go over everything you need to know or do during the first week.

If you have registered, you might like to go to the PGCE Core Documents ELE page (<https://vle.exeter.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=9610>) and look at the information under the Secondary Welcome Tile.

The University has been working hard to ensure that your time on campus is safe and that students and staff are protected. Please go to our '*What you need to know and do when coming to campus*' webpages (<https://www.exeter.ac.uk/coronavirus/comingtocampus/students/>) for more information. And with this in mind, please go directly to your teaching rooms upon arrival at St Luke's campus for your first campus-based session.

Your weekly timetable will be divided up into 3 types of activity:

- **Face-to-face campus-based teaching**
- **Synchronous online activity**
- **Asynchronous online activity**

This is organised slightly differently according to each subject and your subject tutors will explain how your timetable is going to work during the first week of the course. As we are trying to minimise the use of handouts it would be useful if you could bring a laptop or other device to face to face sessions on campus. Please contact your subject lead if this is not possible.

The Secondary History PGCE welcomes trainees on **Monday 28th September with a face to face session in Baring Court 114 at 9am**. After welcomes and an outline of the course you'll dive straight in, examining the question of 'Why teach History?' The purpose of this session is to begin an exploration of the contested nature of history as a school subject and as an introduction to the first Masters assignment. Key debates will be considered, and participants will need to reflect on how these and future debates will inform their development as history teachers.

**Tuesday afternoon sees the first online 'synchronous' session in MS Teams**, where History trainees will join with RE trainees to consider the role of Humanities in school and be properly introduced to the Exeter Model and its supporting tools.

There are plenty of 'asynchronous' tasks set for the week and an opportunity to get to know each other a little better during peer teaching. **Thursday afternoon is the final online synchronous slot** with a review of the week, some drawing together of learning and a look forward to the second week.

Please do email Bryan Smith, Secondary History Subject Lead ([B.P.Smith@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:B.P.Smith@exeter.ac.uk)) if you have any questions about the first few days.

We are looking forward to seeing you all soon at St Lukes.

Tom Ralph  
Secondary Programme Director