



Child in Mind Academy Ltd

PQ Diploma in Counselling Children & Young People
Utilising a Play Therapy Approach

Course Prospectus
2020

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Summary

Qualification:	PQ Diploma in Counselling Children & Young People
Professional body:	Membership of BACP, UKCP, NCS or equivalent
Location:	Eccles, Manchester
Duration:	February - October
Attendance:	9 weekends
Start date:	February 2020

Introduction

It is recognised by the professional bodies regulating our profession that working as a counsellor with children and young people requires specialist knowledge and skills. This Post Qualification Diploma in Counselling Children and Young People utilises a person-centred play therapy approach to provide you with the knowledge and skills needed to work safely and effectively with this client group. Play therapy is a developmentally sensitive form of psychotherapy specifically suited to children and young people as it enables them to communicate through their natural medium of expression – play and creativity! Children and young people often have difficulty trying to say in words both what they feel and how experiences have affected them. The therapeutic relationship that develops between client and therapist facilitates the child or young person's ability to explore and express not only their thoughts and feelings but also their perception of relationships and life experiences. Their inner resources are enabled, through the process of person-centred play therapy, to bring about positive change.

The programme uses a predominantly experiential approach to help you gain the theoretical knowledge, experience and clinical skills required to qualify and work as a confident and highly effective professional play therapist. You will develop comprehensive expertise as a practitioner to intervene and help children and adolescents in times of psychological distress.

Who is this course for?

This is a post-qualification course and as such you will already be qualified as a counsellor. Your core training does not have to be person-centred, however an openness to this approach is essential for you to learn the skills associated with this training.

What you will study?

The training is designed to meet the learning outcomes of stage 1 and 2 of the BACP training curriculum for counselling young people. Twenty-two subject areas are covered to ensure you develop the necessary knowledge and skills to work safely and effectively as counsellor of children and young people. Stage 1 of the curriculum provides you with the basic competences required to begin working with children and young people in a placement

setting. The second stage of the curriculum enables you to develop the in-depth knowledge and understanding, along with the advanced skills and competences required to work with children and young people. You will undertake 50 hours of face-to-face supervised practice with children and young people between the ages of 4-18. Placements can be in a school counselling setting, and/or within the third sector (community/voluntary setting).

How you will study

The course will run between February and October and is delivered in nine weekend blocks in an attempt to fit with any work commitments you may have. An experiential approach is used with lectures, seminars, discussions, and skills practice. Experienced play therapists will assist you in your skills practice sessions.

Who will teach the course?

As designers of the course Jayne and Katy have taught play therapy at post-graduate level over many years both in the UK and internationally. We have a vast amount of experience in the field of child and young person's therapy and our school-based therapy service now operates in four of the North West counties. Jayne will be your primary tutor with Katy providing skills support throughout the course. Experienced play therapists will assist you in the early stages of the course as you practice your new skills.

How you will be assessed

You will be assessed in theory using essays, case studies, reports and reflective journals. Video recordings of therapy sessions and skills assessment will evaluate practice.

How we will support you

Throughout your academic studies you will receive teaching and learning support and have direct access to the course leader. Our extensive reference library is available on-site to support you in your studies.

We will support you on your journey to becoming a competent, confident and ethical child and young person's counsellor through ongoing participation in skills practice and experiential groupwork.

You will be supported practically to find a suitable placement, either within a school-based counselling service, or in the voluntary/community sector. If you do not currently have a clinical supervisor who has experience of working with this client group, we can support you in finding a suitably qualified and experienced supervisor through our approved supervisor list.

Your Career Prospects

On successful completion of the course you will have the additional specialist knowledge, understanding and skills that employers are looking for to work with this client group.

Your new qualification will enable you to practice confidently and competently within the private, voluntary, or public sector, either independently or by becoming part of a wider team.

Entry Requirements

- Minimum of diploma level 4 [Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF) England, Wales and Northern Ireland] and level 7 [The Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) Scotland] counselling/psychotherapy qualification or equivalent to include a minimum of 100 hours supervised counselling/psychotherapy practice in line with recognised practitioner training.
- BACP Registered Member or equivalent member of a professional body who adheres to an ethical framework
- Enhanced Disclosure from the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS), registration with the update service is advisory to keep your DBS current.
- Two character references stating suitability to work with children and young people. Referees must have known the applicant for a minimum of two years in a personal or professional capacity. Referees must not be a spouse, partner or relative.

How To Apply

Application forms can be downloaded directly from the Child in Mind website. Your eligibility, based on the above requirements, will be checked and references will be taken up. Following this you will be invited to enroll on the course.

Fees

Course fees for the 2020 intake have been set at £1350.

On enrolment you will be asked to pay a non-refundable deposit of £270. The balance of your course fees can either be made in full, or in two, four, or six, monthly instalments using our popular payment plan.

Further Questions

If you have any further questions you would like to ask the Programme Leader about this course, please do not hesitate to contact Jayne Beetham-Hatto:

jayne.beetham-hatto@childinmind.co.uk

0161 279 8430

Child in Mind Academy Ltd
The Lodge
716 Liverpool Road
Peel Green
Manchester
M30 7LW

Tel: 0161 279 8430
Email: enquiries@childinmind.co.uk
Web: childinmind.co.uk