

Certificate in Counselling Children and Young People

Facilitator: Susan McGinnis

Venue: In Person

University of Strathclyde, Glasgow

This Certificate course is comprised of two modules: **Essential Elements of Counselling Children and Young People (Module 1)** and **Theory and Practice of Counselling Children and Young People (Module 2)**. Each module consists of 30 hours of teaching supported by individual independent learning and written assessments. On successful completion of both modules, participants will be awarded the Certificate in Counselling Children and Young People, which is validated by COSCA.

The course is open to counsellors and psychotherapists qualified to diploma level or above. Students on adult counselling training courses are eligible but must have completed their diploma and be practicing with children and young people before the start of Module 2.

Module 1: Essential Elements for Counselling Children and Young People

Thurs- Sat / Fri-Sat (9.30am to 4.30pm each day)

The aim of this module is to enable practitioners to acquire the basic skills and knowledge needed for beginning to work with children and young people. With content based on the BACP *Competences for work with children and young people (4–18 years)* and the COSCA *Competencies for Counselling Children and Young People*, learning outcomes include:

- An ability to apply an understanding of child development to communicating and working therapeutically with children and people
- An ability to recognise common mental health problems in children and young people
- An ability to make therapeutic agreements with children and young people and carry out assessments
- An ability to monitor outcomes
- An ability to apply legal and ethical frameworks in practice with children and young people
- An understanding of child protection issues and processes
- An ability to work with children and young people within common settings and contexts

The module is delivered in 30 hours over five days - an initial three-day session followed by a two-day session. Learning will be experiential, collaborative and informative. Participants will be expected to expand their knowledge base and understanding of counselling children and young people through personal reflection and reading between sessions. Assessment of learning outcomes consists of a 1500-word written assignment.

Module 2: Theory and Practice of Counselling Children and Young People

Fri- Sat / Fri-Sat / Fri-Sat (9.30am to 4pm each day)

The aim of Module 2 is to put the learning of Module 1 into practice and to explore and integrate child-focused counselling theory into therapeutic work with children and young people. Based on *Competencies for Counselling Children and Young People* (COSCA) and BACP *Competences for work with children and young people (4–18 years)* and delivered over three two-day sessions with breaks of at least four weeks between for practice, study and reflection, the learning outcomes include:

The place of useful learning

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- An ability to articulate the theory of the participant's own particular therapeutic orientation as it relates to children and young people and incorporate it into practice
- An ability to reflect on personal growth and development as well as practice through supervision
- An ability to apply legal and ethical frameworks in practice with children and young people
- An awareness of the impact of social, cultural and religious influences on children and young people
- An ability to work with children and young people and other professionals within common settings and contexts
- An ability to use non-directive play therapy skills in a developmentally appropriate manner
- An ability to maintain child-centred practice underpinned by a belief in the potential of every child and young person to reach their full capacity.

As in Module 1, learning will be experiential, collaborative and informative with the emphasis on practice-based learning and reflection.

Participants from all theoretical approaches are welcome. Discussions and learning related to theory take the form of dialogue and are focused on considering the strengths and challenges in the participant's chosen approach when in practice with children and young people.

Module 2 will be assessed through a case study based on the participant's practice and an essay that reflects extended study and research into a chosen special interest subject on an aspect of work with children and young people. Participants must also complete 30 hours of supervised practice with at least two clients who are under age 18.

As Module 2 is practice-based, participants are required to have the following:

- Successful completion of Module 1
- Diploma qualification (or above, i.e. Master's or PhD) from a counselling course that is accredited by the British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy (BACP), Counselling and Psychotherapy in Scotland (COSCA), UKCP or other recognised counselling or psychotherapy professional body
- Membership of a recognised counselling or psychotherapy professional body and adherence to its ethical frameworks, complaints procedures and clinical supervision requirements
- Registration with the Professional Standards Authority (PSA) or other professional register
- Professional indemnity insurance (either individual or provided by an employer)
- If self-employed, registration with the ICO as a data controller
- Certificate of membership in the Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG) scheme (Scotland) or Enhanced DBS Check (rest of UK)

Please note: Participants **must** have at least two clients under age 18 (preferably across the age range) during Module 2 and should begin to make arrangements for this prior to starting the course.

Course facilitator

Susan McGinnis has 30 years' experience working with children and young people in clinical and school settings as well as in private practice. She has been coordinator of children and young people's counselling projects and training at the Counselling Unit, University of Strathclyde, since 2002 and continues to work as a counsellor with children and young people. Author of chapters in *How We Feel: An Insight Into the Emotional World of Teenagers* (Jessica Kingsley, 1997) and *Safeguarding Children and Schools* (Jessica Kingsley, 2008) and former editor of the BACP journal *Children and Young People*, Susan is a clinical supervisor, researcher, member of COSCA's Children and Young People Standing Policy Group and contributor to the development of the Early Intervention Framework for Scotland. Her special interest is the law regarding counselling children and young people.

Full Fee **£1200.00** on or before (**6 weeks before**), please send a non-returnable deposit of **£50.00** to secure a place if not paying the whole fee at time of booking. Balance payment for paid deposit **£1100.00** on or (**6 weeks before**).

In order to keep costs to a minimum, catering is not included.

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Contact: claire.mcconnell@strath.ac.uk for further information on this course training, the facilitators, ways of applying for this course or other APT events