



## **Certificate in Counselling Skills**

### **Course Handbook 2024-2025**

**BRITISH/  
PSYCHOANALYTIC  
/COUNCIL**



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*Registered Charity No. 1003589*

## General Information

### Certificate Training Staff

Lee McGlade	Seminar Leader
Serena Kelly	Experiential Group Leader
Liz Good	Head of Training
Richard Green	Office Manager

### Format

**Teaching for the 2024-25 academic year for the ECPS Certificate course will be held online via Zoom.**

### Enfield Counselling Service Staff

Liz Good	Clinical Director/Head of Training
Richard Green	Office Manager
Alice Good	Therapy adviser/Administrative Assistant
Emmanuel Benedetti	Bookkeeper

### Attendance and Registers

Registers will be recorded each time you attend a seminar and experiential group. 100% attendance of the course is expected, 80% is the minimum requirement.

**If for unavoidable reasons you cannot attend a seminar or experiential group please contact the group leaders via email or text message as soon as possible on the day of training. Longer absences need to be discussed with the seminar leader as far in advance as possible.**

### Assessment

The Certificate year will be formally assessed by the end of the third term for the academic year. The assessment will consider attendance (80% minimum per term), reports from seminar leaders, presentations, weekly contribution and academic essays. Student progress will also be reviewed by the Training Committee at a monthly meeting whereby any potential issues will be raised. The Committee will provide all help to resolve any issues raised; however, any serious concerns or unsatisfactory work or attendance may result in early warning procedures or termination of training.

Assessment is continuous throughout the course (see details on page 6). Certificates will be awarded on successful completion of the course.

Students will be invited to attend the Autumn Term Service meeting where Certificates will be presented to the previous year's graduates at a graduation ceremony. This meeting is held on a Saturday morning and is open to all ECPS staff, students and trainees. It is an opportunity for all those involved with ECPS to meet and discuss matters of mutual interest and concern.

There is an appeal procedure and a complaints procedure, both of which are available from the Admin Office.

## **Tutorials**

Students can arrange to have an individual tutorial if they wish to discuss

- Any difficulties involved in meeting the requirements of the course, such as written work.
- Any other issue which may affect a student gaining the maximum benefit from the course.
- Any difficulties which may affect attendance on the course including pregnancy and illness.

**In the rare circumstance when a student may be thinking of leaving the course a tutorial needs to be arranged to discuss the issues involved before a final decision is made.**

To arrange a tutorial a student needs to contact the Head of Training (via the ECPS office) who will see the student or, if appropriate, the Head of Training will arrange for the Seminar Leader to meet with the student.

## **Plenary**

At the end of each term students have the opportunity to meet as a group in order to discuss issues or concerns relating to the course experience as well as questions about further training.

## **Punctuality**

Students are asked to arrive on time for the start of the theory seminar at 7.00pm. Students may have to wait for a short period in the Zoom waiting room before their group leader admits access. If students arrive late, in order to minimise disruption and to be considerate of the wider student experience, it is at the prerogative of the group leader whether access is allowed or not

Students are asked to remember that the experiential group starts at 8.45 pm and to please be ready for a prompt start after the break.

## **Aims of the course**

1. Receive an introduction to the theoretical ideas of three major psychoanalytic thinkers. This will be taught through the reading and discussing of seminar papers that have shaped today's clinical practice. Your seminar leader will clarify the history and concentrated meaning of the paper.
2. To undertake self-exploration and development in order to foster attitudes that will facilitate the aims in 1.
3. To learn some basic counselling skills theory in order to provide a framework for the choice of actions, and to learn some basic developmental theory based on psychodynamic ideas.
4. To learn reasons for the importance of boundary setting in using counselling skills.
5. To be aware of working and living in a multicultural society where issues of differences are acknowledged and worked with.
6. To understand ethical issues and to work within the BACP and BPC Code of Ethics.

## **Course Outline**

During the year the topics below will be covered. Your seminar leader will provide you with a reading list and a term-by-term programme.

### **Term One**

- Where it all began. 10 seminars on Freud which will provide a starting point to any other issue to be explored.
- The understanding of the human being from a biological viewpoint. Early childhood will also be explored including issues of sexuality and rivalry.
- The famous Oedipus Complex.
- 'Helping' and how it can be unhelpful, and why students are interested in counselling others.
- Our unconscious wishes, needs, motivations, goals and priorities, which may influence how we respond to others.
- Clients' defences and anxieties and how they show themselves in the counselling relationship.
- Are we who the client thinks we are? Considering the issue of 'transference' in the therapeutic relationship.

### **Term Two**

- The ground breaking contributions of Melanie Klein.
- The role of unconscious phantasy.
- The death instinct and its implications.
- New discoveries in the realm of defences.
- Depression.
- Paranoia.
- The Controversial discussions. How they shaped modern day counselling.
- Envy: its role in the infant.
- The Oedipus Complex. A new understanding.

### **Term Three**

- The role of Mother and baby in detail.
- DW Winnicott and his unique and influential work.
- The role of theory and practice in Winnicott's work.
- The role of the environment in the development of the human personality with particular consideration of the development of 'capacities' e.g. capacity to be alone, to play, for concern etc
- True and false self; how we become 'authentic' human beings. A consideration from pathology to health.

### **Seminars**

Seminars take place in the first part of the evening for an hour and a half. All students are expected to fully contribute to group discussions and to take turns in presenting the weekly reading. Guidance and support will be provided by the seminar leader.

### **Experiential group**

During the second part of the evening students meet with the Experiential Group Leader for an hour and a half. The purpose of the group is to explore what is of concern to individual members and the group as a whole in the here and now. It is part of the group's task to identify these concerns and discover how to work with them with the help of the Group Leader. This work provides a source of learning about oneself and about group dynamics.

The work of the group and the material revealed by individuals is confidential to the group. The experiential group leader may give an opinion about a student to the Seminar Leader/Head of Training if it is felt that it would be helpful to do so, but will not reveal personal material. As with seminars, regular attendance is very important and a requirement of the course.

### **NOTE:**

**The Certificate is not a clinical qualification or a licence to practice privately. ECPS clients are not seen by students during this course.**

## **Assessment Guidelines**

### **Written work**

Students are asked to submit two written essays, the first of 1,500 words usually by the second week of the second term, the second of 2,000 usually by the first week after reading week of the third term.

Each assignment will be on a theoretical topic or concept linked to personal and/or professional experiences. Such written assignments can refer to material from journals, books and online sources. Full essay briefs and guidelines will be provided to students. Refer to page 8 for more information.

### **Experiential group**

The Group Leader may contribute to a student's assessment. Matters discussed in the experiential group are confidential to that group, so the Group Leader's comments are in terms of general themes and not in the form of specific matters addressed in the group.

### **Attendance**

An award of the Certificate cannot be made if a student does not fulfil the 80% minimum attendance requirement (80% minimum per term.). A record of attendance will be kept via a register each week. In the case of exceptional circumstances affecting attendance, students must inform the Seminar Leader and the Head of Training. A tutorial should be arranged to discuss issues to do with attendance.

### **Progress**

This is continually assessed by the Seminar Leader and feedback is given throughout the course on the student's strengths. Comments will also be made about areas which may need improvement.

The Seminar Leader and Experiential Group Leader are asked to inform the Head of Training if they have any concerns about a student. Some students will then be recommended for an assessment meeting with the Head of Training, who may make suggestions about how the student can be helped to improve.

The Seminar Leader writes an assessment on each student at the end of the course. If a student wishes to apply to do the Diploma course, this assessment will be taken into account as part of the evaluation of a student's readiness and suitability to train as a counsellor.

### **Criteria for assessment**

1. Attendance.
2. Students need to demonstrate some development in their ability to understand the papers they have read.

3. It is expected that students begin to appropriately express their ideas, insights and reflections on personal experiences and psychodynamic theory in written format.
4. Students need to demonstrate their understanding of the attitude of the psychodynamic counsellor.
5. Students need to be able to demonstrate some development of self-awareness, and an understanding of the impact of their behaviour and attitudes on other people (this includes an understanding of the impact of prejudice and development of anti-discriminatory practices).

## **Assessments**

The Certificate year will be formally assessed by the end of the third term for the academic year. The assessment will consider attendance (80% minimum per term), reports from seminar leaders, self-assessments reports; and quality of written work. Certificate Trainees will also be reviewed by the Trainee Committee at a monthly meeting whereby any potential issues will be raised. The Committee will provide all help to resolve any issues raised, however any serious concerns or unsatisfactory work or attendance may result in early warning procedures or termination of training.

## **Early Warning Procedures**

Trainees may receive an early warning at any point during the duration of the course if there are concerns raised by the Trainee Committee regarding any of the following points; serious cause for concern, attendance, unsatisfactory work. The Trainee will be asked to attend a meeting with the Head of Training to discuss the issues raised and an early warning will be formally issued.

Depending on the nature of concerns raised, ECPS have the right to terminate a trainee from the course with immediate effect if the Head Of Training decides that a) There are still continuing concerns raised after an early warning has been issued, b) The issues raised are deemed too serious for continuation of the course.

All Trainees will have the right to appeal this decision and will be informed of the appeal process.

## Guidelines for Written Work

1. Essays must be typed, 1.5 or double spaced with wide margins, with only one side of the paper used.
2. **Number of words.** This is usually given as an approximate amount. Plus or minus ten percent would be acceptable, but if you write significantly more or significantly less than the required length your marks could be affected.
3. **Deadlines.** The deadline for handing in papers must be strictly observed. Work handed in late will not be marked unless you have made an arrangement with the Seminar Leader. There needs to be a good reason for making such a request.
4. **Copies.** You will be told how many copies to make for each paper. Usually this will be one electronic copy to be emailed to the seminar leader. The seminar leader will provide detailed guidelines on formatting and annotation of essays.
5. **References and Bibliography.** When you quote from a book or paper you have read you must give the correct reference in your text. At the end of the essay, on a separate attached sheet you need to have full details of the references used.

### In the text:

#### a. Direct quotation

When quoting directly from an author you must use the exact words, which are placed in italics, with the author's name, date of publication and page number in brackets after the quote. For example:

*"....."* (Klein, M 1957: p20)

#### b. Specific theoretical ideas

When you refer to an idea (but not the exact words) of an author, or paraphrase a concept, you must make this known. For example:

"According to Klein....." (Klein, M 1975: ch 5, pp175-180)

### References listed at the end of the essay

You should title this 'References'. 'Bibliography' is usually only inserted if you are including books not directly referred to in the text, but which have been part of your wider reading for the essay. It is **not recommended** that you list all the books you have read. **What is important is that all the books directly referred to and quoted from in the text are in your Reference list at the end.**



**References must be listed in alphabetical order and written thus:**

**a. Books**

Sole-authored book:

Bion, W (1961) *Experiences in Groups*. London: Tavistock

Co-authored book:

Boscolo, L., Cecchin, G., Hoffman, L. & Penn, P. (1987) *Milan Systemic Family Therapy: Conversations in Theory*. New York: Basic Books

**b. Chapter**

In author's own book:

Rycroft, C. (1968) Causes and Meaning. In *Psychoanalysis Observed*. London: Constable

In edited book:

Sroufe, L.A. (1989) Relationships and relationship disturbances. In *Relationship Disturbance in Early Childhood* (Eds. A.J. Sameroff and R.N. Emde). New York: Basic Books

**c. Article in journal**

Nuttall, J. (2000) Modes of therapeutic relationship in Kleinian Psychotherapy. In *British Journal of Psychotherapy*, vol. 17, no.1, 17-36.

**Assistance with writing**

Your Seminar Leader will give you general guidance about the writing of assignments. If students are experiencing exceptional difficulties with the written work a tutorial may be arranged with the Head of Training.

**Marking**

Your Seminar Leader marks the assignments. You will receive a mark graded Pass or Rewrite, together with written comments from the tutor. If the essay does not pass on the first reading the Seminar Leader may ask for a rewrite or a partial re-write. If the rewrite is unsuccessful, a 'Fail' grade is awarded.

The Head of Training checks the marking of the Seminar Leader to ensure that fairness and standards are being maintained.

# ENFIELD COUNSELLING & PSYCHOTHERAPY SERVICE

## CERTIFICATE, DIPLOMA & PSYCHOTHERAPY TERM DATES 2024-2025

### AUTUMN TERM

#### ***Certificate, 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Diploma***

**Mondays, 7:00PM – 10:15PM**

**Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> September – Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2024**

#### ***3<sup>rd</sup> Year Diploma & Psychotherapy***

**Thursdays, 2.00PM – 7.00PM**

**Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> September – Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> December 2024**

**Reading Weeks:       Monday, 21<sup>st</sup> – Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> October**  
**Monday, 28<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November**

### SPRING TERM

#### ***Certificate, 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Diploma***

**Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> January - Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

#### ***3<sup>rd</sup> Year Diploma & Psychotherapy***

**Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> January – Thursday, 27<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

**Reading Weeks:       Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> – Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> February**

### SUMMER TERM

#### ***Certificate, 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Diploma***

**Monday, 28<sup>th</sup> April – Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> July 2025**

#### ***3<sup>rd</sup> Year Diploma & Psychotherapy***

**Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> May – Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> July 2025**

**Reading Week:       Monday, 26<sup>h</sup> May – Friday, 30<sup>th</sup> May**

### **BANK HOLIDAYS 2024 - 2025**

**25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> December 2024, 1<sup>st</sup> January, 18<sup>th</sup> April, 21<sup>st</sup> April, 5<sup>th</sup> May, 26<sup>th</sup> May 2025**

# Change of Circumstance Form

Please use this form at any point in your course to advise the Head of Training of any change of address or telephone number. It is essential that you keep us informed of any changes in your residential/work circumstances to ensure that we can contact you quickly if need be.

**Name** .....

**Change of address to** .....  
.....  
.....

**Home tel. no** .....

**Mobile no.** .....

**Work tel. no** .....

**Email** .....

**Signature** .....

**Date** .....

## **Payment of Fees**

The fee of £1,295 for the course includes an enrolment fee of £145 which is payable in response to ECPS's offer of a place.

On acceptance of an offer of a place the student enters into a financial contract with ECPS.

**Note: If a student withdraws from the course part way through the year, the full fees for the year are payable.**

The balance of £1,150 is payable either in full, or in instalments by bank transfer. Details will have been provided for students before the start of the course.

## **Instalment Payments**

ECPS offers students the opportunity to pay their course fees in instalments. There are two instalment options that students may choose from; termly or monthly.

**Please discuss with the Head of Training any anticipated difficulties before a crisis arises so that a mutually acceptable arrangement can be agreed.**

## Further Training

At ECPS we have a committed approach to enhancing and expanding the contents of the course. This is done mainly through workshops. These are not mandatory, but up to now Trainees have found these to be of great benefit.

## Personal Therapy

Personal therapy is a **requirement for the Diploma in Psychodynamic Counselling**. Although personal therapy is not a requirement for the Certificate course, many students, whether or not they wish to do further training, plan to go into therapy as part of personal development.

There is an ECPS Therapy Adviser available to help students find a suitable therapist. You are strongly advised to make contact with our Adviser in preference to finding your own therapist as this may be problematic if you want to do further training with ECPS or elsewhere. We have particular requirements for psychotherapists who see trainees, as they need to be experienced and qualified practitioners with a UKCP (CPJA Section) or BPC (British Psychoanalytic Council) registration.

If you are considering applying for the Diploma course you are encouraged to contact the Therapy Adviser early in the training year, preferably by the end of the first term.

Our Therapy Adviser is Alice Good, and she can be contacted by telephone on 020 8367 2333 or by email on: [info@enfieldcounselling.co.uk](mailto:info@enfieldcounselling.co.uk)

If you are already in therapy you will need to check with the Head of Training whether your therapist meets our requirements before you apply to do further training. There is a particular procedure to follow in getting approval for psychotherapists not on our approved list.