

# DIPLOMA IN ADVANCED PSYCHOTHERAPEUTIC PRACTICE

*PENDING CPCAB APPROVAL*

*SEPT 2026- JULY 2027*

A POST-QUALIFYING COURSE DESIGNED TO DEEPEN  
THEORETICAL KNOWLEDGE AND CLINICAL SKILLS FOR WORKING  
WITH COMPLEX CLIENT PRESENTATIONS AND THE BREADTH OF  
WORK THAT COMES WITH INDEPENDENT PRACTICE



## **VENUE:**

Willows Counselling & Training  
The Willows Centre  
Swindon - SN1 3LQ - Wiltshire

UK Charity No 1185304



*Is this the course for me?*

# COURSE DETAILS



## COURSE OVERVIEW

The Diploma in Advanced Psychotherapeutic Practice is designed for qualified counsellors to build on their core training and deepen their practice in a number of areas:

- working with complex client presentations
- working at depth within the therapeutic relationship
- developing skills in appropriate client assessment and working ethically and safely with risk
- heuristic research in counselling

This level 7 qualification meets the training competences aligned with SCoPEd Column C. Successful completion of the course means that you will be able to work confidently in a range of settings including private practice or as a senior counsellor in a counselling agency.

## WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

- Attending the training session every fortnight
- Attending tutorials with a personal tutor
- Reading books from the required & recommended reading lists
- Completion of a substantial portfolio of written work including written assignments and a clinical case study
- Group and peer supervision
- Group work, presentations, and reflective exercises
- Completion of a short, observational placement in a mental health setting (1-2 days)
- Clinical assessment experience (4-6hrs)
- Completion of a minimum 50 hours of supervised clinical practice
- Weekly personal therapy during the course with a minimum requirement of 35 hours
- Being assessed as proficient internally

**In addition to attending the training sessions each fortnight, the course requires an additional time commitment for: clinical hours, study, reading, research, written work, mental health observational placement, clinical assessment experience, peer supervision groups and personal therapy.**



*What about the training centre?*

# TRAINING AT WILLOWS



## WHAT OUR STUDENTS SAY...

"Training ... at Willows has afforded me the opportunity for the kind of atmosphere that is supportive, and a course content that is comprehensive and interesting. The smaller, more personal setting makes for a learning environment where peer friendships are formed, and have made my learning experience feel I am on a journey with friends"

**LH - 2020/2022 Level 4 course**

"The Level 4 Diploma course at Willows has allowed me to continue my counselling journey with confidence and a strong belief that I have gained firm foundations with which to work with a variety of clients. I experienced the content of the course as wide ranging and thorough. My learning was supported by my confident and competent tutors, and I have formed relationships with my peers which I believe will last a lifetime."

**MW - 2018/2020 Level 4 course**

## WHY TRAIN WITH WILLOWS?

- We have more than 30 years experience of providing high quality counselling training and are well respected in our field
- We believe that our approach to training sets us apart from other course providers. We are truly committed to the personal, professional and emotional development of our students, and to nurturing their unique qualities and attributes
- As an active Counselling Agency, we offer a unique training experience where students are exposed to the workings of an agency setting where the end goal of qualifying as a counsellor is always in sight
- Willows teaches an Integrative model of counselling with Person Centred theory at its core. This enables student to develop a robust and varied comprehension of the complexities of psychological issues and the most appropriate and effective ways to support
- We equip our students to work with a breadth of clinical issues, and provide specialist foundational training in trauma and attachment
- Subsidised course fees, in keeping with our charitable aims and ethos
- Our students are eligible to apply for a Totum student discount card





*What is the cost and can I apply?*

# PRACTICAL INFORMATION



## COURSE FEE

The course fee is **£2650**  
**(\*discounted rate available for previous Willows' students)**

\*Exclusive of books, professional expenses, 2x Willows Workshops, 1x external workshop and travel expenses incurred.

The course fee can be paid in full, or by deposit of £780 with 11 monthly instalments of £170.

Upon accepting a place on the course, students commit to paying the full course fee, regardless of whether they finish or pass the course.

**Refunds are only offered in line with our Cancellations and Refund Policy\***  
**(\*available on request)**

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

This qualification is intended for candidates who have gained counselling training qualifications up to Level 4, with a minimum of 420 Guided Learning Hours.

- Minimum age is 21 years
- Proven ability to produce written work to meet the academic requirements of this qualification level
- Robustly developed emotional resources and resilience
- Capacity and desire to proactively embrace and engage in a deep level of self-awareness and personal development
- Full completion of the course application form including pre-course essay
- Shortlisted applicants will be invited to interview

*The intensity of advanced practice training means that it is not advisable for those dealing with ongoing emotional issues or enduring mental health difficulties.*

## COURSE DATES

- Dates - 25<sup>th</sup> September 2026 - 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2027  
Day & Time - Fridays 9am to 4pm (fortnightly)  
Additions - 2 x Willows workshops\*  
1 x external CPD\*

\*(workshops are charged at an additional cost)

**A minimum of 80% attendance is required**

## APPLY NOW

Application packs available at [www.willowscounselling.org.uk](http://www.willowscounselling.org.uk)

For further details, contact our Training department  
email: [training-coordinator@willowscounselling.org.uk](mailto:training-coordinator@willowscounselling.org.uk)  
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UK Charity No 1185304

