

Many thanks for the support with funding for the Diploma in play therapy with PTUK. The course is suitable for anyone who has completed the Certificate in therapeutic Play and has at least 50 hours of clinical experience of working with children and or adolescence utilising play therapy methods. Teaching methods are a blend of lecture led, experiential and self directed learning. Tutor support is great, and the group cohesiveness promotes a supportive learning environment.

The course builds upon the Certificate course material in an integrative approach to play therapy. Ways of promoting and delivering play to the individual and group setting are explored. The play therapy tool box resources are drawn upon to develop further therapeutic skills. Small group work is promoted in developing resources for group work.

Assessment of competency is made throughout the course and involves the submission of two in depth case studies, which covers therapeutic work with a child over a year. An individual negotiated essay of approximately 4,000. I did my essay on identifying resilience opportunities within the looked after child. A further essay on group work with children, book reviews, which included studying neuroscience and implications for play therapy. This was a fascinating area in linking the neuroscience to the processes of play.

It is a course that I would recommend for the creative practitioner, I have been able to utilise and put into practice the skills and theory I acquired from this course with children, adolescents and adults.

Many thanks
Caron Pickford-Perry