



Northamptonshire Centre
for Counselling Studies

Counselling Training Pathway

Your Pathway to Excellence in
Professional Counselling and Beyond



Phone Number
07999 858630



Our Website
www.northantscounsellingtraining.co.uk

Welcome!!

Hello, my name is Kelly Porch, and I'm the Founder and Centre Manager of the Northamptonshire Centre for Counselling Studies (NCCS) which was established in 2017.

You might be wondering—why did I start NCCS?

The Need for Quality Counselling Training

In the UK, the counselling profession is currently unregulated, meaning there is no standardized path to becoming a 'qualified' counsellor. As a result, individuals can complete various courses, from short 6-week programmes to postgraduate degrees, all claiming to qualify someone to work as a counsellor. In reality, anyone can practice counselling without formal qualifications, leading to serious risks for clients who may seek help from inadequately trained practitioners.



I founded NCCS to address this issue. My goal was to create a centre that offers high-quality, ethical counselling training with a strong focus on practical skills. We prepare students not only to excel in their training but also to confidently pursue counselling jobs or even set up private practices once qualified.

The positive reviews and testimonials from our students reflect that this mission has been achieved and will continue to do so.

A Bit About Me

I am a qualified Person-Centred Psychotherapeutic Counsellor, Clinical Supervisor, and Solution-Focused Hypnotherapist, currently working in my own private practice, Kelly Porch Counselling and Hypnotherapy. I work with clients facing a wide range of issues, and I have a particular interest in men's mental health and chronic health/pain.

Professional Experience

- Lead Psychotherapeutic Counsellor – Moulton Further Education College
- Psychotherapeutic Counsellor (Trainee) – Teamwork
- Counselling Course Tutor – Bedford College
- Group Supervisor – Northamptonshire Mind
- Group Supervisor – GamCare
- Group Supervisor - Pegasus
- Restorative Supervision - Amplius
- Leadership Supervision - Wray Irwin Associates
- Long Covid Support Group Facilitator – Covid:Aid
- Staff Emotional Support Service – Kettering Community Unit
- Guest Speaker - Northamptonshire Carers

I am deeply passionate about ensuring that counsellors are well-prepared, both academically and practically, to provide safe, ethical, and effective support to their clients.

Award-Winning Counselling Training

The Northamptonshire Centre for Counselling Studies (NCCS) is proud to be an award-winning counselling training centre, recognized as the Health and Wellbeing Business of the Year at the Kettering Business Awards 2022 and the Best Training Institute at the National Counselling Awards 2020. Established in 2016, we offer both classroom-based courses in Wellingborough, Northamptonshire, and online courses with live, synchronous teaching via Zoom that comply with the British Association for Counsellors and Psychotherapists (BACP) and the National Counselling and Psychotherapy Society (NCPs) requirements.

Course We Offer

At NCCS, we provide a range of counselling courses:

- CPCAB Level 2 Certificate in Counselling Skills
- CPCAB Level 3 Certificate in Counselling Studies
- CPCAB Level 2 and Level 3 (Integrated)
- CPCAB Level 4 Diploma in Therapeutic Counselling – fully accredited by the NCPs
- CPCAB Level 6 Certificate in Therapeutic Counselling Supervision (Pending Approval by CPCAB)

We also offer a CPD course - *"Applying the Equality Act 2010 with Confidence in Contemporary Counselling"* and in the near future plan to offer CPCAB Level 2 Award in Understanding Substance Misuse.

Our Commitment to High Standards

As a self-identified 'gatekeeper' to the counselling profession, we take our role seriously. Counselling is still an unregulated profession in the UK, and NCCS is committed to maintaining the highest standards. Our training centre consistently undergoes thorough internal and external quality-assurance processes and has a reputation for its high expectations of both students and staff.

Practical and Ethical Training

Our courses go beyond theory. We emphasize the practical aspects of being a counsellor, so our graduates can confidently practice safely and ethically. Each student receives comprehensive training that covers both the skills and the practical responsibilities of counselling.

Expert Tutors with Diverse Specializations

Our staff are practicing counsellors with expertise across a wide range of areas, including but not limited to:

- Systemic Therapy
- Relationship Counselling
- Addictions
- LGBTQ+ Issues
- Child and Youth Counselling
- Chronic Health and Pain
- Domestic Abuse
- Trauma

All tutors are also up-to-date with the latest counselling policies and legislation. Many of them also act as clinical supervisors, supporting other counsellors and other professionals in their practice, bringing real-world experience into the classroom.

Small Class Sizes for a Personal Touch

We maintain small class sizes of no more than 15-18 students for all levels to provide a personalized, student-focused experience. Our class sizes allows us to deliver a more intimate and tailored learning environment.

G.R.O.W Framework

The NCCS GROW Framework provides a clear developmental pathway through counselling training, supporting learners from their first steps in personal development through to qualified professional practice.

G – Grounding (Level 2)

At this stage, students begin building the foundations of counselling practice. Development focuses on:

- Self-awareness
- Active listening skills
- Empathy and understanding
- Personal development
- Ethical awareness

This stage is about developing the core qualities and attitudes essential for effective helping relationships.

R – Reflection (Level 3)

Students deepen their understanding and begin to connect theory with practice. Key areas include:

- Reflective practice
- Counselling theory and application
- Diversity and inclusion awareness
- Therapeutic relationships
- Developing professional identity

This stage supports learners in thinking critically about their practice and growing confidence in their emerging role.



O – Opportunity (Level 4)

At this point, students begin applying their skills in real-world settings, including:

- Client work in placement settings
- Clinical supervision
- Professional practice development
- Integrative working approaches
- Applied counselling skills in context

This stage bridges learning with practical experience and professional readiness.

W – Working Professionally (Post-Qualification)

After qualification, practitioners move into full professional practice and ongoing development:

- Agency or organisational work
- Private practice
- Continuing Professional Development (CPD)
- Accreditation pathways
- Specialist training
- Supervision training

This stage supports lifelong learning and sustained professional growth.

Why CPCAB?

The Counselling and Psychotherapy Central Awarding Body (CPCAB) is the only awarding organisation in the UK run by counsellors for counsellors, which means that they are uniquely placed to support those training to be counsellors. The CPCAB team includes experienced practicing therapists who have taught counselling qualifications and have an intimate understanding of the sector.

CPCAB qualifications have been developed from evidence-based research and are structured to form a clear and coherent progression route to becoming a qualified counsellor and beyond.

Practicing as a counsellor carries a heavy responsibility, and CPCAB recognises this in the core philosophy and this is one of the reasons they ensure the qualifications support competent and safe practice.



Higher Technical Qualification

The Level 4 Diploma in Therapeutic Counselling (TC-L4) qualification is also a “*Higher Technical Qualification*”. Higher Technical Qualifications (HTQs) are employer-approved Level 4 and 5 qualifications in the UK that provide the specialist technical knowledge and practical skills needed for skilled careers. They are designed in collaboration with employers to ensure learners develop skills that are relevant to current industry needs. Studying an HTQ can improve career prospects, increase earning potential, and provide a flexible pathway into employment or further study, making them a valuable option for individuals looking to gain professional and technical expertise.

The CPCAB is now among the few awarding organisations to offer a HTQ approved Level 4 qualification, and one of only two awarding organisations to offer a HTQ approved counselling qualification. The HTQ approval process included in depth evaluation of the qualification’s content, outcomes, delivery model, and employer relevance -This is a strong endorsement of CPCAB’s internal development processes and quality standards.

Does my CPCAB qualification meet SCoPEd competencies?

The Scope of Practice and Education (SCoPEd) framework is a shared standards framework, developed and adopted in 2022 by six Professional Standards Authority accredited bodies, including BACP, NCPS and ACC.

The framework describes the core training, practice elements and competencies the SCoPEd partners have selected as typical requirements for counsellors and psychotherapists working with adults to practice safely and competently. SCoPEd is designed to support the counselling and psychotherapy profession and enable the public and employers to have a standardised understanding of the typical competencies of a qualified counsellor.

SCoPEd contains 3 columns of competencies reflecting the core training to becoming a qualified counsellor in Column A, Enhanced Training in Column B, and Further Enhanced Training in Column C.

The CPCAB progression route, from the Level 2 Certificate in Counselling Skills, through the Level 3 Certificate in Counselling Studies, or Applied Counselling Studies, leading to the Level 4 Diploma in Therapeutic Counselling is designed to provide a cohesive development of skills leading to qualified counsellor status. This is reflected in the fact that the Level 4 Diploma in Counselling fully maps to Column A of SCoPEd. CPCAB’s post-qualifying qualifications, for example the Level 5 Diploma in Psychotherapeutic Counselling provide additional competencies present in Column B.

Core Values

1. High Quality and Robust Courses

We are committed to providing high-quality courses that meet the requirements of recognised counselling professional membership bodies. We aim to immerse students in the world of counselling, balancing theory and practice while being mindful of ethical practice and safety.

2. Teaching by Example

We are committed to ensuring that all staff teach by example, including modelling the Person-Centred approach to counselling; being mindful of ethical and safe practice; having a willingness to receive feedback themselves; and providing detailed, constructive feedback to students.

3. Personal Touch

We are committed to providing a personal touch where each individual student feels respected and important.

4. Inclusivity and Accessibility

We are committed to the inclusion of differences throughout all courses, realising that we can all learn from each other. We insist upon an ethos of respect where everyone shares the responsibility for creating a positive culture to safeguarding inclusion, accessibility, dignity and celebration of differences.

5. Openness and Transparency

We are committed to being open and transparent, providing honest and correct information about counselling training and the counselling profession.



Counselling Training Pathway



Counselling and Psychotherapy Central Awarding Body

At NCCS all of our core counselling training courses are approved by the Counselling and Psychotherapy Central Awarding Body (CPCAB) which is the UK's leading awarding organisation specialising in counselling qualifications.

All CPCAB courses are regulated by Ofqual, the body responsible for overseeing qualifications in England and recognise student's skills through rigorous assessments and quality assurance.



Core Training Pathway To Qualification

Step 1- Completion of [CPCAB Level 2 Certificate in Counselling Skills \(CSK-L2\)](#) and (2) [CPCAB Level 3 Certificate in](#) - this is an integrated course completed in 1 academic year and then

Step 2 - Completion of [CPCAB Level 4 Diploma in Therapeutic Counselling \(TC-L4\)](#) - fully recognised and accredited by the National Counselling and Psychotherapy Society (NCPS).

The level 4 diploma is considered to be the minimum qualification to gain and it is this or higher that is recognised by counselling professional bodies such as the British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy (BACP) and the NCPS. There are optional courses after the Level 4 diploma for further training which can be seen on the diagram on the next page.

Counselling Training Pathway



Post-Qualification Qualifications

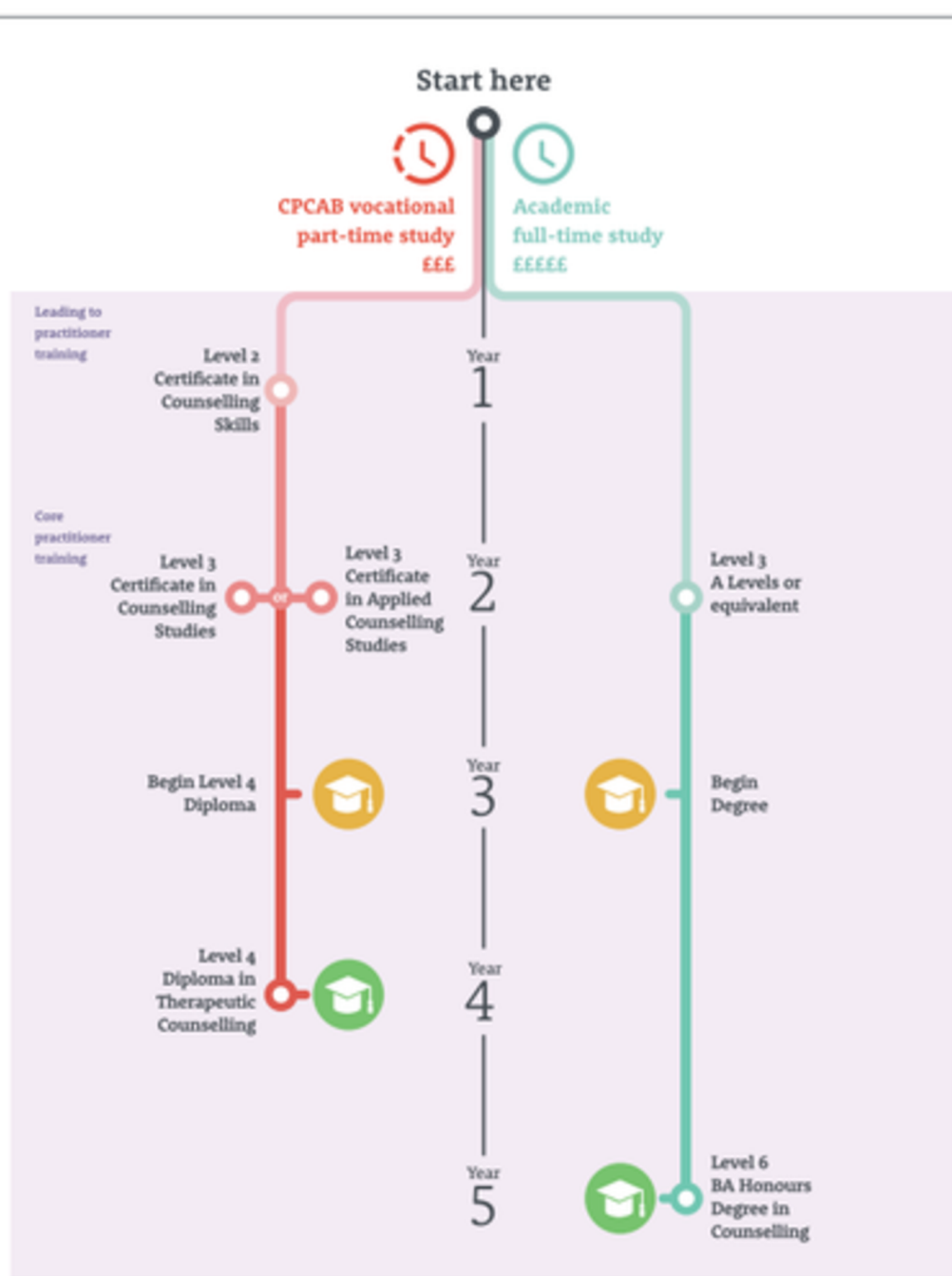
Level 6 Certificate in Counselling Supervision (TCSU-L6)

Other Qualifications and CPD Courses

- Level 2 Award in Understanding Substance Misuse (USM-L2) - coming soon
- Applying the Equality Act 2010 with Confidence in Contemporary Counselling
- More planned in the future

Plan your journey to becoming a qualified counsellor

This infographic compares two common training routes and teaching timeframes that meet the requirements of accredited registers for counselling: The part-time CPCAB progression route and the full-time BA Hons Degree in Counselling.



Key information



You are now in practitioner training. You are eligible to apply for student membership with recognised professional membership associations, e.g. BACP, NCPS, ACC.



You are now a qualified counsellor. You can apply to join an accredited register, e.g. BACP, NCPS, ACC. You can continue your studies, work towards accreditation and work as a counsellor.

Other training routes are available

For more information visit: www.cpcab.co.uk



Level 2 Certificate in Counselling Skills

The Level 2 Certificate in Counselling Skills (CSK-L2) serves as both foundational training in counselling and a standalone course designed to enhance listening skills, particularly beneficial for professionals in roles such as teaching, mental health, customer service, Human Resources, and others interested in personal development.

Experienced tutors, well-versed in counselling, deliver the course through live sessions (either in a classroom, online or a hybrid of both) comprising tutor-led presentations, small and large group discussions, and practical skill practices. These sessions provide verbal and written feedback from tutors and peers.

Aims of the Course

By the course's conclusion, our objectives are for you to:

- Develop into a proficient and skilled listener
- Gain a foundational understanding of counselling and its training
- Engage in experiential learning to enhance self-awareness
- Prepare for potential progression to the Level 3 counselling studies course

Course Content

The course is structured many topics including:

- Becoming a skilled listener
- Working safely and ethically as a 'helper' using counselling skills
- Developing self-awareness
- Introduction to the Person-Centred Approach

Assessment

Assessment involves compiling an internally assessed portfolio with methods including:

- Reflective journals
- Worksheets
- Assignments
- Group presentations
- Group discussions
- Tutor and peer feedback on skills
- 1-2-1 tutorials

Successful completion requires passing the internal assessment.

Progression Route

While the Level 2 course stands alone as a valuable qualification, it also serves as a stepping stone to the Level 3 Certificate in Counselling Studies, also accredited by the NCCS.

Level 2 Certificate in Counselling Skills



Northamptonshire Centre
for Counselling Studies

Course Length: 90 guided learning hours

Total Qualification Time: 170 hours

Minimum Age: 18 years

Course Cost: Currently part of the integrated Level 2 and 3 courses - see website for current fees

Attendance Requirements: 90% minimum (equates to missing just 10 hours of the course. Please consider this when booking holidays - a fitness to study process will be triggered should the minimum attendance be reached and your place on the course could become compromised without refund).

Eligibility:

- Level 2 or Equivalent in English Language. If you don't have this level of literacy this does not exclude you from the course, but your written English will be assessed as part of the application written exercise
- Good IT skills – ability to use Word, fill in proforma templates electronically, use an online google classroom platform, and have a confidential space with good Wi-Fi and lighting for online courses.
- A willingness to discuss personal thoughts and feelings with others as part of a group, 1-2-1 with other students and tutors and in writing
- A willingness to give feedback to and receive feedback from others in the group
- Be committed to exploring your own values, beliefs and attitudes and examining how you relate to other people
- Be committed to the learning process and completing the necessary work on time to fulfil the requirements of the course
- Anyone experiencing any current emotional/psychological problems will not be accepted onto the course
- Anyone experiencing any life experiences that may be detrimental when studying a counselling course may not be accepted onto the course

What our students say

"NCCS was a great centre for me and my pursuit of counselling studies. It was exactly what I was looking for in terms of the size and the culture. Jo was so friendly, open and engaging and the style of teaching was really good for me to understand the basics and to start practicing those skills. I would recommend NCCS as a centre without any hesitation." [Level 2 Student](#)

"Studying with Kelly has been one of the most profoundly transformative and insightful experiences of my life. It has forever changed me as a person and I view the world through new eyes now. The course was challenging and involved much soul searching, but I feel I am now reaping the rewards and look forward to continuing my studies. Thank you so very, very much for your enduring support, fantastic teaching and boundless patience!" [Level 2 Student](#)

[See more testimonials at the end of the brochure](#)

Level 3 Certificate in Counselling Studies

The Level 3 Certificate in Counselling Studies (CST-L3) course is designed for individuals who have already obtained a recognized qualification in counselling skills and are looking to:

- Take the next step toward becoming a professional counsellor
- Deepen their understanding of counselling theory, ethics, and mental health
- Prepare for work as a counsellor in an agency setting

It enhances employability for those in supportive roles across sectors such as health and social care, education, advocacy, mediation, support work, and project management. It also equips those already employed with additional skills, potentially leading to promotions and progression towards practitioner-level qualifications (TC-L4). Upon completion, candidates will be able to work as skilled supporters across a variety of roles and career paths

The Level 3 counselling studies course at NCCS is led by experienced tutors, supervisors, and support staff deeply embedded in the counselling profession. Courses are delivered through live sessions (either in a classroom, online or a hybrid of both) comprising tutor-led presentations, small and large group discussions, and practical skill practices. These sessions provide verbal and written feedback from tutors and peers.

Aims of the Course

By the course's conclusion, our objectives are for you to:

- Continue to develop counselling skills building on the skills of Level 2, also introducing more advanced counselling skills to support clients
- Obtain an introduction to three counselling theories (person-centred, psychodynamic and cognitive therapy)
- Continue to develop self-awareness
- Understand the importance of the counselling relationship
- Understand the importance of working within an ethical framework
- Enhance counselling practice through supervised practice

Course Content

- How ethical frameworks are used in counselling practice
- The importance of effective counselling relationships
- The importance of diversity and addressing differences
- What is meant by a user-centered approach and why this is important in counselling practice
- The theoretical basics of three different counselling theory
- Common mental health issues
- What is clinical supervision and practically learn how to use this for counselling practice

Assessment

Assessment involves compiling an internally assessed portfolio with methods including:

- Reflective journals
- Worksheets
- Assignments
- Group presentations
- Group discussions
- Tutor and peer feedback on skills
- Supervision feedback and personal reflection
- 1-2-1 tutorials

Successful completion requires passing the internal assessment.

Level 3 Certificate in Counselling Studies

Our approach goes beyond theoretical knowledge, emphasizing experiential tasks for self-development. This fosters heightened self-awareness, essential for effective client work, particularly for those progressing to the Level 4 diploma course. We prioritize creating a safe learning environment conducive to reflective practice. Central to our training is the recognition that the counsellor-client relationship is pivotal to therapeutic success. At NCCS, our courses are designed to be relational, placing the heart of counselling at their core. Throughout the Level 3 course, you'll receive an introduction to counselling theory while being actively encouraged in personal development.

Personal Therapy Requirement: Each student must complete a minimum of 6 hours of personal therapy (at their own cost) with a qualified counsellor who is a member of a professional counselling body. While students can select their own counsellor, our tutors are available to offer guidance if needed.

Course Length: 90 guided learning hours

Total Qualification Time: 196 hours

Minimum Age: 18 years

Course Cost: Currently part of the integrated Level 2 and 3 courses - see website for current fees

Attendance Requirements: 90% minimum (equates to missing just 10 hours of the course. Please consider this when booking holidays - a fitness to study process will be triggered should the minimum attendance be reached and your place on the course could become compromised without refund).



Level 3 Certificate in Counselling Studies

Eligibility:

- Age requirement: 19 years or over
- English language proficiency:
- Level 2 or equivalent certification
- Applicants without this level will need to demonstrate writing skills through a written exercise
- IT skills: Proficiency in Microsoft Word, ability to fill in electronic templates, use of online classroom platforms, reliable Wi-Fi and good lighting in a confidential space for online courses
- Counselling skills training:
 - Minimum of Level 2 Certificate or equivalent (at least 90 guided learning hours)
 - Proof required at interview
 - Reference from Level 2 tutor if transferring from another centre
- Commitment to personal development:
 - Willingness to engage in personal therapy (minimum six hours, self-funded)
 - Openness to discuss thoughts and feelings in group and 1-2-1 settings
- Ability to give and receive feedback constructively
- Commitment to exploring personal values, beliefs, and attitudes
- Educational commitment:
- Commitment to learning process and completing homework
- Eligibility considerations:
 - Applicants experiencing current emotional or psychological issues may not be accepted
 - Significant life circumstances may also affect acceptance
- Consideration before applying:
 - Need for emotional energy and time to fully engage in the training

What our students say:

"The quality of teaching and content on the Level 3 course was second to none. Guest tutors really complimented different aspects of the course. The opportunity to undertake group supervision was invaluable and really enhanced not only the learning aspect but also personal development throughout the course. While the standards are high this is outlined from the outset and really allows for significant development to take place during the course and beyond as you are positively pushed throughout to challenge yourself."

Level 3 Student

"There have been times in my journey to becoming a qualified counsellor where I have questioned if I am up to the task ahead but studying this year to Level 3 has alleviated many of my concerns. I feel indebted to Kelly for the positive difference she has made. She has been extremely supportive, and her honest, constructive feedback and guidance has given me the confidence to push through times of doubting myself. I now feel I am more self-aware and gained the knowledge, skills and confidence to progress to Level 4. Learning to be a counsellor is a life changing journey and I have benefitted enormously, both personally and professionally. I am excited to continue!"

Level 3 Student

See more testimonials at the end of the brochure

Integrated CPCAB Level 2 & Level 3

The NCCS Integrated Level 2 & Level 3 Counselling Pathway provides a structured, quicker and more cost-effective route for individuals beginning their journey towards becoming a qualified counsellor.

By enrolling onto both qualifications from the outset, students benefit from a clear progression pathway, continuity of learning, and a supportive cohort experience. The pathway combines the CPCAB Level 2 Certificate in Counselling Skills and the CPCAB Level 3 Certificate in Counselling Studies into one interconnected learning journey, enabling students to progress to the CPCAB Level 4 Diploma in Therapeutic Counselling sooner than if completing these courses over two academic years and therefore **potentially reducing the overall training journey to qualified status from approximately four years to three years.**

Level 2 develops essential counselling skills, self-awareness, empathy, and ethical understanding, while Level 3 builds deeper knowledge of counselling theory, mental health, reflective practice, and professional development.

Please note that Levels 2 and 3, whether studied separately or through the Integrated Pathway, do not qualify an individual to practise as a counsellor. Successful completion of a practitioner qualification, such as the CPCAB Level 4 Diploma in Therapeutic Counselling, is required before working towards professional registration and qualified counselling practice.

The aims and course content is exactly the same as the individual Level 2 and Level 3 pathways, just combined together into one pathway. **For information about each course, please read the information above for the separate qualifications.**

Course Length: 180 Guided learning hours

Total Qualification Time: 366 hours

Course Cost: See website for current course fees

Attendance Requirements: 90% minimum (equates to missing just 10 hours of the course. Please consider this when booking holidays - a fitness to study process will be triggered should the minimum attendance be reached and your place on the course could become compromised without refund).

Additional Study Time

This is a fast track course and so additional study time could be as much as approximately 10-12 hours a week. This may vary for each individual student and may increase slightly when various assignment deadlines approach. It is therefore important that if you are considering applying for the course, that you think about where the course will fit into your day-to-day life, such as employment, family circumstances, health issues, etc.

It is important that the course is considered in relation to other areas of your life in order that you can give the course your time and commitment to give you the best opportunity of completing it. The full fee for the course is payable should you decide to withdraw once the course has begun

Level 4 Diploma in Therapeutic Counselling

This two-year part-time qualification equips learners with the knowledge, skills, and competencies to work as therapeutic counsellors in agency settings, both in healthcare and non-medical environments. Upon successful completion, graduates can offer therapeutic counselling within an agency's service framework, with the potential to transition to independent practice after gaining experience, support from a supervisor, or further training such as PC-L5 or its equivalent.

NCPS Accreditation

This course is accredited by the National Counselling and Psychotherapy Society. From the 1st March 2026, due to the implementation of the SCoPEd framework, applicants for Accredited Registrant membership with NCPS who have completed a qualification that has not been accredited or verified by a PCPB partner as mapping to Column A will be required to demonstrate that they have achieved the necessary Column A competencies through their training by completing the Column A Competencies Evidence' (CACE) process. **Graduates from the NCCS Level 4 course won't need to complete this assessment should they wish to register with NCPS.**

Aims of the Course

By the course's conclusion, our objectives are for you to:

- Develop advanced counselling skills
- Understand and apply counselling theories
- Work in a professional agency context
- Be able to build therapeutic relationships
- Develop self-awareness and apply this to professional practice
- Put into practice working ethically and professionally as a counsellor
- Provide therapeutic counselling in a supervised placement (including how to work with clients aged 13-18 years)
- Prepare for employment and/or further training

Course Content

- **Professional practice:** professional boundaries and skills, working ethically and safely, understanding the law, working with suicide risk, organisational policies, and procedures, undertaking assessments and referrals, understanding ethical frameworks and application to practice by exploring ethical dilemmas, utilising supervision effectively, clinical wills and note-taking.
- **Mental Health:** exploration of the medical and non-medical models of common mental health issues, including medication and referrals to specialist services.
- **Counselling Theory:** A firm grounding in person-centred theory and its application to practice. Other theories will be touched upon as a starting point for further CPD after the diploma course.
- **Working with Difference:** Exploration of the implications of working with difference in counselling practice and 'getting comfortable with being uncomfortable'.
- **Self-Awareness:** Opportunities to explore your early experiences and the impact of these on patterns of relating and/or behaviour. Sometimes this may involve creative activities.
- **Group Process:** At regular intervals, you will spend an hour in group process which will provide opportunity for exploring your inter-relational dynamics and your own process.
- **Reflective Practice Groups:** This is like group supervision and provides an opportunity to explore your development as a counsellor, linking theory to practice as well as discussions about what might come next after the diploma has ended.

Level 4 Diploma in Therapeutic Counselling

- **Additional Topics:** Talking about sexual intimacy in the therapy room, attachment theory, time-limited counselling, and pre-trial therapy.
- **Counselling Young People Module** - Towards the end of Year 1 of the diploma course at NCCS, students will also complete a 10-week module related to working with children and young people. This module will provide students with the basic skills and competencies to begin working with children and/or young people. This will also provide students with a starting point should they wish to continue working towards a qualification in counselling children and/or young people once they have completed the Level 4 diploma at NCCS.

Personal Therapy

You are required to undertake at least 40 hours (a minimum of 20 hours per year of the course that must be no less than once every fortnight) of personal therapy with a qualified counsellor who must be a registered member of a counselling professional membership body. You can find your own counsellor but can seek advice and guidance from your tutors if you are unsure who to choose.

Placement

You will undertake a supervised placement within an agency that has an established counselling service. You must gain a minimum of 100 placement hours to pass this part of the course. You are required to find your own placement, however, NCCS has links to different agencies across Northamptonshire (and some outside of the County) and we will be able to provide information about these. You will also have regular placement workshops to receive support in finding a suitable placement. If you wish to work for an agency that we don't have current links with, we are more than happy to consider this but the agency must go through the NCCS approval process first.

Should you wish to work with Young People in your placement, you will not be able to begin until after completing the Young People module within the course at the end of Year 1.

Online Counselling Placements

Since the pandemic, many agencies have decided to continue to offer counselling online only and some are offering a hybrid approach of both online and in-person counselling. You will need to consider your preferences when choosing a placement. Should the placement you choose require you to work online (telephone or video calls), most placement agencies will require you to have undertaken some form of training in relation to this delivery method.

The CPCAB candidate guide has also been updated to reflect this change of approach to the provision of counselling and there are now assessment criteria related to this within the course.

Some agencies are happy to accept a short training course, but others will expect a more in-depth 80-hour training course – this will therefore need to be undertaken at your own expense and in your own time either before the L4 course begins or alongside it. Should you choose the shorter training courses, this may limit the number of agencies you can apply to for placement. Examples of recognised training accepted by many agencies are: -

- <https://www.open.edu/openlearncreate/course/view.php?id=5039> (6-hour course – Free)
- <https://counsellingtutor.com/online-and-telephone-counselling-course/> (80-hour course - NCCS has a special discounted price should you wish to complete this)

Level 4 Diploma in Therapeutic Counselling

Should you undertake a hybrid approach to the provision of counselling in your placement, you must also comply with your membership body requirements: -

BACP- The majority of supervised practice hours must be conducted face-to-face with clients - the remainder can be a combination of online video or video and phone. For example, if the course requires 100 hours of supervised placement hours, at least 51 hours must be conducted face-to-face (i.e., in the room). Text-based, asynchronous online practice cannot be counted towards the supervised placement hours in core practitioner training. Where remote placement hours are undertaken, the mode of supervision should be the same as that for the client work, so a mix of face-to-face and online supervision will be needed. All students will need appropriate supervision with a supervisor who has knowledge of, and experience in, delivering OPT sessions. The supervisor's competence should be aligned with the BACP Supervision competence framework, which includes the OPT supervision competences.

NCPS- *"It is required that at least 51% of placement hours are carried out face-to-face/in the-room. If the course provides relevant training and considers a student to be competent to carry out some of their supervised client hours remotely (i.e. online or phone-based), this will need to be synchronous/live and with relevant support from the placement provider and supervised by an experienced supervisor. Within the remainder of hours permissible via remote working the decision with regards to the proportion of supervised hours for these other modes of delivery lies with the training provider. Asynchronous or text-based practice hours are not counted towards placement hours."*

Progression Routes

While undertaking a Level 4 diploma course at NCCS, you will be eligible for student membership of NCPS or the BACP. Once you have completed your course and gained your diploma, this will enable you to apply for full individual membership of these organisations or others. If you join NCPS or BACP, this will also include being placed on the Professional Standards Authority Register of Counsellors and Psychotherapists.

For the BACP, you will be required to sit a Certificate of Proficiency (a computer-based test) before being approved for the register. NCPS usually require you to complete the 'Column A Competencies Evidence' (CACE) process but as NCCS students are completing a course accredited with NCPS, they will be exempt from this process.

From here, if you wish, you can work towards accredited status with either the BACP or NCPS (or other membership bodies). To become accredited, you will need to: -

- Have been 'qualified' for three years (this includes your Level 4 counselling placement)
- Have gained 450 hours of practice (this can include your Level 4 counselling placement hours)
- Have undergone 450 hours of counselling training with a substantial amount of this at Diploma level e.g., Level 3 plus Level 4 is 510 hours
- Be a registered member of the organisation you are hoping to gain accreditation with
- Be in supervised practice

The Level 4 diploma is a stand-alone course, but progression is available, should you choose to, on to the CPCAB Level 5 Diploma in Psychotherapeutic Counselling or Cognitive Behavioural Therapeutic Skills and Theory or the Level 5 Diploma Working in Counselling Children and Young People. There is also a CPCAB Level 6 Certificate in Therapeutic Supervision.

Level 4 Diploma in Therapeutic Counselling

Fees - See website for current fees

Additional Costs

- Student membership of either BACP or NCPS - British Association for Counsellors and Psychotherapists (£86) – correct at time of writing. Because the course is accredited by NCPS, students get a reduced rate of £25 to join as student members.
- 40 hours of personal therapy (some counsellors offer student rates) – must complete 20 hours for each year of the course and **sessions must be no less than once a fortnight**
- Clinical supervision (if placement provider doesn't provide this) - **at least 45 minutes every fortnight**
- Public liability insurance (if the placement provider doesn't provide this)
- Registration with Information Commissioners Office (if placement provider doesn't provide this)
- Mandatory course textbooks
- Printing (where needed)

Eligibility Requirements

- Age requirement: 20 years or older
- Required qualifications: Hold a Level 2 Certificate in Counselling Skills and Level 3 Certificate in Counselling Studies (minimum 180 guided learning hours) (or equivalent) - proof required before the interview; courses must have involved live, synchronous teaching and not be distance learning
- Attendance and deadlines. Good track record in L2 and L3 training, verified by tutor references if transferring to NCCS from another centre
- English language proficiency: Level 2 or equivalent
- IT skills: Ability to use Word, fill in electronic templates, attach and send emails, and use Google Classroom
- Training motivation: Ability to articulate reasons for training beyond personal development
- References: Academic and professional references required
- Emotional and academic readiness: Able to cope with the demands of the training
- Working with diversity: Ability to respect and work with difference
- Personal qualities: Resilience, imagination, intuition, openness, and a commitment to self-development
- Therapeutic ability: Ability to form therapeutic relationship, self-awareness, insight, honesty, and ability to link experiences, ability to challenge and be challenged, empathy and sensitivity towards others
- Client work readiness: Ability to commit to working with clients in an agency setting
- Counselling placement: Must actively seek and secure a counselling placement by the end of year 1
- Emotional stability: Absence of current emotional or psychological issues, past emotional challenges must be sufficiently worked through (discussed at interview)
- Life circumstances: Applicants with significant current or expected life circumstances may not be accepted

It is important that you have carefully considered all the eligibility requirements before applying for the diploma course. You need to have enough emotional energy and time available to be able to successfully apply yourself to all aspects of the training. A discussion with your current course tutor or personal therapist may help you with this consideration.

Level 4 Diploma in Therapeutic Counselling

Attendance Requirements: 90% minimum (equates to missing just 21 hours per year of the course. Please consider this when booking holidays - a fitness to study process will be triggered should the minimum attendance be reached and your place on the course could become compromised without refund).

What our students say:

"What a fantastic experience it has been completing level 4 at NCCS. The course is so well organised and in depth. The tutors have so much knowledge and experience, I feel privileged to have learnt from them. They will go above and beyond to support you and the level of feedback received is exceptional. They will push you to ensure you achieve your potential. So glad I joined NCCS for level 4, I feel very lucky to have experienced the best foundation to build a counselling career."

[See more testimonials at the end of the brochure](#)

Level 6 Certificate in Therapeutic Counselling Supervision

This level 6 course is currently pending approval with CPCAB but we are accepting applications (and have permission from CPCAB to do so).

The Level 6 Certificate in Therapeutic Counselling Supervision is an advanced professional qualification designed for experienced counsellors who wish to develop the knowledge, skills and competencies required to provide effective clinical supervision for counsellors and other helping professionals.

This part-time course combines current supervision theory with practical skills development, reflective practice and supervised supervision experience. Learners will develop the confidence to facilitate ethical, supportive and professionally challenging supervision that promotes safe, effective practice and ongoing professional development.

Successful completion of the qualification enables graduates to offer clinical supervision in a variety of settings, including private practice, voluntary organisations, education, healthcare and employee support services. It also provides a strong foundation for developing a sustainable supervision practice and expanding an existing counselling business.

Throughout the programme, learners are encouraged to develop their own supervision philosophy, critically evaluate a range of supervision models and integrate theory with their existing counselling experience. The course places a strong emphasis on ethical decision-making, diversity, safeguarding, reflective practice and the supervisory relationship, ensuring graduates are well prepared for the complexities of contemporary supervision practice.

The Level 6 supervision course at NCCS is led by experienced tutors and support staff deeply embedded in the counselling profession. Courses are delivered through live sessions (either in a classroom, online or a hybrid of both) comprising tutor-led presentations, small and large group discussions, and practical skill practices. These sessions provide verbal and written feedback from tutors and peers.

Attendance Requirements: 90% minimum (equates to missing just 10 hours of the course. Please consider this when booking holidays - a fitness to study process will be triggered should the minimum attendance be reached and your place on the course could become compromised without refund).

Aims of the Course

By the course's conclusion, our objectives are for you to:

- Develop the knowledge, skills and confidence to provide ethical and effective clinical supervision.
- Apply a range of supervision models and theories to support reflective and competent practice.
- Facilitate supervision that promotes professional growth, client safety and ethical decision-making.
- Critically evaluate your own supervision practice through reflection, feedback and ongoing professional development.
- Establish a professional supervision practice that meets the expectations of contemporary counselling services and professional bodies.

Level 6 Certificate in Therapeutic Counselling Supervision

This level 6 course is currently pending approval with CPCAB but we are accepting applications (and have permission from CPCAB to do so).

Course Content

Throughout the programme you will explore the knowledge and practical skills needed to become a confident and ethical clinical supervisor. Topics include:

- The role, responsibilities and professional identity of the clinical supervisor
- Developing the supervisory relationship and creating effective supervision contracts
- Models and theories of clinical supervision
- Ethical decision-making, legal responsibilities and professional frameworks
- Managing risk, safeguarding and fitness to practice concerns
- Reflective practice and developing critical thinking skills
- Working with diversity, difference and equality within supervision
- Giving and receiving constructive feedback
- Supporting trainee, newly qualified and experienced counsellors
- Working with complex clinical presentations and ethical dilemmas
- Developing your own supervision model and professional philosophy
- Building and maintaining a sustainable supervision practice
- Supervised supervision practice, self-reflection and professional development

The course combines tutor input, group discussion, skills practice, case presentations, reflective activities and supervised supervision experience, allowing you to integrate theory with your own professional practice throughout the programme.

Assessment involves compiling an internally assessed portfolio with methods including:

- Reflective journals
- Assignments
- Presentations
- Group discussions
- Tutor and peer feedback on skills
- Supervision of supervision feedback and personal reflection
- 1-2-1 tutorial

Successful completion requires passing the internal assessment.

Supervision Practice

Students must complete a minimum of 15 hours practicing as a clinical supervisor with supervisees who are psychotherapeutic counsellors (no other professional will be acceptable).

This can take place: (a) 1-2-1 or in a group -(group supervision will need to be approved by the course tutor), (b) In-person, online or a mixture of both, (c) In an agency setting or in private practice

Level 6 Certificate in Therapeutic Counselling Supervision

Fees

See website for current fees

Additional Costs

- Membership of a professional membership body
- Supervision of supervision
- Registration with Information Commissioners Office (where appropriate)
- Insurance
- Mandatory course textbooks
- Printing (where needed)

Eligibility Requirements

- Achieved a minimum of the following qualifications (to note consideration will be also be given to equivalent Level 4 & 5 courses and courses above Level 5 such as degrees and Masters degrees are also acceptable)
 - CPCAB Level 4 Diploma in Therapeutic Counselling or
 - CPCAB Level 5 Diploma in Psychotherapeutic Counselling or
 - CPCAB Level 5 Diploma in Cognitive Behavioural Therapeutic Skills and Theory or
 - CPCAB Level 5 Diploma in Counselling Children and Young People **plus**
- Completed 450 supervised counselling practice hours (250 of which must have been completed post-core qualification **plus**)
- A recommendation from your current clinical supervisor that you are suitable for this training
- Level 2 or Equivalent in English Language. If you don't have this level of literacy this does not exclude you from the course, but your written English will be assessed as part of the application written exercise
- Good IT skills – ability to use Word, use an online google classroom platform, and have a confidential space with good Wi-Fi and lighting
- A willingness to discuss personal thoughts and feelings with others as part of a group, 1-2-1 with other students and tutors and in writing
- A willingness to give feedback to and receive feedback from others in the group
- Be committed to exploring your own values, beliefs and attitudes and examining how you relate to other people
- Be committed to the learning process and completing the necessary work on time to fulfil the requirements of the course
- Anyone experiencing any current emotional/psychological problems will not be accepted onto the course
- Anyone experiencing any life experiences that may be detrimental when studying a counselling course may not be accepted onto the course

It is important that you have carefully considered all the eligibility requirements before applying for the diploma course.

Additional Learning and Support Needs

One of the core values at NCCS is 'Inclusivity and Accessibility' for all students, which we prioritize deeply. We welcome applications from people of all ages, genders, ethnicities, and backgrounds. We particularly encourage applications from individuals who are currently underrepresented in the counselling profession, including people from ethnically diverse communities and all gender identities.

At times, students may have additional learning requirements, such as support with numeracy, literacy, or specific conditions like dyspraxia, dyslexia, ADHD, visual or hearing impairments, as well as emotional and mental health challenges. Some learners may also have physical health needs that impact their learning experience. While many of these needs are typically identified during the course interview process, some may arise unexpectedly during training.

NCCS is a small private training center, differing from larger educational institutions like Further Education Colleges or Universities. Consequently, we may not always have the resources readily available to fully accommodate all individual requirements.

If you are considering training at NCCS and have additional needs, it is important to carefully assess whether a smaller, private setting is suitable for you. Potential additional costs could include specialized equipment, dedicated tutoring, supplementary tutorials outside of regular course hours, and similar provisions.

It is the responsibility of prospective students to disclose any disabilities, mental health conditions, or other potential barriers that might affect their participation in a Level 4 diploma course. During the interview process, applicants are expected to clearly outline their support needs and discuss how these have been addressed in previous educational settings. If additional needs are identified, we will engage in a dialogue about possible 'reasonable adjustments' that can be implemented to support your learning journey.

Should a specific need arise after the course commences, we are committed to arranging additional tutorials and exploring further 'reasonable adjustments' tailored to the student's requirements. Our aim is to provide the best possible support within the scope of the Equality Act 2010, ensuring fairness and accessibility for all learners.



Frequently Asked Questions

Why should I choose courses offered by NCCS?

NCCS is an award-winning training centre known for delivering expert-led, high-quality counselling training. Our courses provide a structured progression path to becoming a practicing counsellor in various settings, including counselling agencies, private practice, and beyond, with opportunities to advance to roles like a counselling supervisor. The training you receive at NCCS also ensures you meet the guided learning hours (GLH) required for future accreditation with professional bodies such as the National Counselling and Psychotherapy Society (NCPS) or the British Association for Counsellors and Psychotherapists (BACP).

I have a psychology degree; can I use this as a contribution towards my counselling training and apply directly for Level 4?

Although both psychology degrees and counselling training share theoretical elements, they differ significantly. A psychology degree focuses on academic and theoretical knowledge, while counselling training emphasizes relational skills, self-awareness, and the ability to build trusting, empathic relationships with clients. These essential counselling skills are not typically included or assessed in psychology degrees. Therefore, even with a psychology degree, you will need to start with the Level 2 Certificate in Counselling Skills (CSK-L2) to develop the practical skills needed for counselling practice. Do I have to start at Level 2?

If you have already completed counselling skills and theory qualifications with another recognized body, NCCS will assess the number of guided learning hours (GLH) and the content of your previous training. To bypass Level 2 and 3 and start at Level 4, you must have completed equivalent courses with at least 180 GLH that include both theoretical learning and practical skills practice. If you're unsure whether your prior learning qualifies, contact NCCS to arrange a consultation. **Please note that distance or online courses without live (synchronous) teaching or regularly assessed skills practice are not accepted as recognized prior learning at NCCS.**

Can I train to be a counsellor via distance learning?

While there are many training options available, including distance learning, NCCS believes that high-quality counselling training must include a strong relational component, which is best developed through live, synchronous teaching and regular skills practice sessions. Distance learning can be useful for Continuous Professional Development (CPD) after completing formal counselling training, but it does not replace the foundational learning needed for becoming a qualified counsellor.

Professional bodies like the British Association for Counsellors and Psychotherapists (BACP) and the National Counselling and Psychotherapy Society (NCPS) require a portion of training to include live teaching. BACP and NCPS emphasise that supervised practice and feedback from tutors and peers are vital to developing counselling skills. **As such, online or distance learning courses that do not include live, interactive sessions cannot count towards the required training hours for professional membership or accreditation. All of our online courses meet these requirements.**

What funding is available for courses?

As a private training centre, NCCS does not offer government-funded loans or remitted fees. However, we provide flexible payment plans to help spread the cost of tuition. Once the deposit is paid, students can opt for an instalment payment option.

Frequently Asked Questions

Do I have to complete the 10 week introduction to counselling course before I apply for the Level 2 Certificate in Counselling Skills course?

It is not mandatory to complete the Introduction to Counselling course at NCCS and students are permitted to apply directly for the 90 hour Level 2 Certificate in Counselling Skills course.

Do I have to begin at Level 2?

If you have already gained counselling skills and theory qualifications with another awarding body, NCCS will look at the number of guided learning hours (GLH) undertaken in a classroom and what the course comprised of in relation to the learning of theory and practical skills practice.

To start at Level 3, applicants will have completed an equivalent skills practice course that comprises of a minimum of 90 GLH and was synchronous (live-taught) learning

To start at Level 4, potential students will have completed equivalent skills and theory courses comprising of at least 180 GLH and was synchronous (live-taught) learning

If you are unsure whether this relates to you then please contact NCCS and we will arrange a telephone conversation with you.

At NCCS, online or distance learning courses that do not contain live (synchronous) teaching or regularly assessed skills practical sessions will not be accepted as recognised prior learning.

Will NCCS courses count towards the Open University Foundation Degree?

Our Level 4 course forms part of the Open University Foundation Degree progression route. The Foundation Degree is made up of the CPCAB Level 4 Diploma in Therapeutic Counselling, a mandatory Open University module (D240 Counselling: exploring fear and sadness) PLUS a choice of Open University modules and optional CPCAB level 5 practitioner qualifications. More information can be found by watching this [video](#).

What is the difference between CPCAB and BACP?

CPCAB is an awarding organisation for counselling courses. These are sometimes called awarding bodies or examination boards. This is compared to the BACP (British Association for Counsellors and Psychotherapists) which is a professional membership body that counsellors can become a member of. It's role is to set standards, protect the public, hear and review complaints. They don't award counselling qualifications. There are also other awarding bodies such as the National Counselling and Psychotherapy Society (NCPS).

I have completed my Level 4 diploma. What letters can I have after my name?

The normal letters for the Diploma in Therapeutic Counselling (TC-L4) is "Dip.Couns". Qualifications below level 4 would not normally be listed but there would be no objection to "Cert.Couns.Skills" (CSK-L2) or "Cert.Couns.Studies" (CST-L3)

Nice Words from Nice People



Northamptonshire Centre
for Counselling Studies

Level 2

"The course has really given me more understanding of others and respect for others views, value and opinions. My self awareness has grown and has challenged me to work my limitation's and to come out of my comfort zone and to be more vulnerable with myself and others."

"The amount of depth and detail the tutor goes into the sessions, how the tutor brings her own experiences to enrich the course content and the thought provoking discussions she often opens all bring this course to life. The course has instilled in me the notion that counselling is not just something to learn or a career to enter into, but that it is a way of life and a way of engaging with life."

"Great year learning with a great group, felt like a safe environment to learn in."

"I found the course to be a great experience with plenty to learn about counselling skills and myself through the self-awareness aspects of the course. Tracey was a fantastic, patient and supportive tutor and would always welcome any questions or concerns you had. I would recommend this course to anyone who wants to begin their journey as a counsellor, or to better themselves within a role that helps people."

"I really valued this course as an experience and found it really helpful in understanding the skills a counsellor uses and the importance of each of these. The tutor was fantastic and this really helped me to engage with the course."

"Level 2 Certificate in Counselling Skills was really enjoyable and the tutor support was second to none."

"This is a brilliant course, I have learned so much and grown as an individual in way I couldn't have foreseen, and it was so enriching to go on that journey with a solid group of other people who have all grown and changed throughout the course and form a deep connection."

"The level 2 counselling skills course has been the best opportunity I have ever undertaken. The mix of learning theory, practising skills and self-reflection has been incredible. The tutors and peers on my course were very supportive and friendly. If anyone is thinking of doing the course and unsure, do it you won't regret it."

"A revelatory course with passionate, professional and knowledgeable tutoring. I could not recommend this highly enough"

Excellent course, I found it insightful, empowering, and would encourage everyone to do it even if they don't want to be a counsellor as you learn so much about yourself you can't do anything other than become a better version of you."

"I can wholeheartedly recommend this course. The tutors provide a professional, safe, and welcoming space for participants to learn more about themselves and how they relate to others, as well as the basics of helping work. Doing this course has benefited my personal development enormously and I can't wait to continue to learn more about counselling!"

Nice Words from Nice People

Level 3

"NCCS are so invested in my wellbeing as much as my success. Their experience as counsellors ensures they recognise how valuable producing counsellors who will always strive for the best for their future clients."

"The courses at NCCS give you the best opportunity to become the best counsellor you can be. From the incredibly organised administration to the knowledge and support of the team of tutors and supervisors. Providing you are willing and capable of putting in the work, you'll have everything you need to excel."

"I would recommend this course to anyone wanting to train as a counsellor. It is well structured, comprehensive and professional. The tutors are top of their game and I feel I have had a first rate experience."

"I have studied with NCCS for both my Level 2 & Level 3 and I cannot recommend this centre enough. Kelly is an incredibly supportive tutor who both challenges and encourages you. She is incredibly knowledgeable and will always take the time to talk through anything you don't quite understand and give you honest feedback which I always appreciated. Lessons were always made interesting by Kelly even with the slightly heavier topics! I feel like these courses at NCCS have completely changed me (for the better!) and I am so excited to continue my studies to become a qualified counsellor."

"I have really benefited from taking level 3 with NCCS. The high quality, in depth teaching was both challenging and enjoyable. Our tutor pushed us to get the best out of us individually. For me that meant greatly expanding my theory knowledge but more than that, growing my confidence in putting that knowledge to use in both my skills practice and deepening self awareness. I would recommend NCCS to anyone!"

"I approached Kelly as I was curious about counselling as a career and wanted to explore what was involved in the training and if I might be suitable. I received frank and honest advice from the beginning and I feel I have benefited hugely from the courses I've taken. The teaching and course material has been both supportive and challenging which has helped me develop as a person as well as a trainee counsellor. Now a couple of years later, I've acquired the skills and confidence to work in a helping role and I'm currently preparing to undertake training to become a qualified counsellor."

"This course raises an all-round awareness of Person Centred Counselling and is both informative & thought provoking. The expertise, friendly guidance and support offered by the course tutor was exemplary. Whilst the level 3 course can be challenging having a good tutor makes this journey far more achievable and enjoyable."

Nice Words from Nice People

Level 4

"What a fantastic experience it has been completing level 4 at NCCS. The course is so well organised and in depth. The tutors have so much knowledge and experience, I feel privileged to have learnt from them. They will go above and beyond to support you and the level of feedback received is exceptional. They will push you to ensure you achieve your potential. So glad I joined NCCS for level 4, I feel very lucky to have experienced the best foundation to build a counselling career."

"I was new to NCCS and I am so glad I made the decision to study here, extremely professional center run by one amazing lady who is incredibly hard working and really pushes you as a student to reach your potential. Both tutors were so supportive and helpful to ensure you got to where you needed to be"

"Well - I mean you know how I feel about this course and how powerful and life changing it has been. In terms of training content and structure it is excellent - having two tutors who are such experienced and accomplished counsellors teaching the course, adds such a unique angle and we definitely benefit as students because of the experience we soak up from them. The content of the course is superb - you know you're studying to a high level and it pushes you to dig deeper, to really delve into study and training. Not just to CPCAB standards - but to the absolute highest standard. It makes it totally worth the money you invest in yourself to undertake the training when you know it's to such a high standard. Exceptional course"

"The most incredible journey and experience that can be personally described as positively life changing. I can't thank Kelly and Jo enough for their invaluable knowledge, commitment, guidance and support throughout."

"It's really hard to think of what would make NCCS any better. From the very first contact, the completing L4, the support and dedication from Kelly and Jo has been unwavering. The level of care that has gone into to ensuring we have every opportunity to become to best counsellors we can, going above and beyond CPCAB requirements, is exceptional. No stone was left unturned. Yes it was hard work and expectations of me were high, but having the healthy challenge whilst being supported is only a good thing. Please run a Level 5 so I can come back!"

"NCCS excels in all areas, including the tutor's and the quality of their courses overall. No corners are cut and standards are extremely high, both in terms of the course delivery, and what is expected of students. I learnt so much about myself, and for me the course was utterly life changing in so many positive ways! It was a very tough journey at times, but the support from the tutors and peers alike is tremendous. Having studied levels 2, 3 and 4 at NCCS, I would wholeheartedly recommend the centre for anyone seriously considering counselling as a career. It offers so much more than a course which just takes you through a series of learning modules. Kelly and Jo are incredibly knowledgeable and experienced, and they are passionate about raising standards within the counselling profession. Hence, the learning experience is rich and engaging, and placement agencies are well researched and vetted in order for trainees to gain a wealth of experience when commencing work with clients. All in all such a positive and rewarding experience. Thank you so much Kelly and Jo, you are both amazing!!"