

# Therapeutic Play Skills Certificate

**Donegal**

**Starting February 2018**

Therapeutic Play Skills is a FETAC Level 6 Minor Award (6N4705) offered on a part time, blended learning basis which will equip the learner with the relevant knowledge, skill and competence to plan, deliver and evaluate both group and individual play based interventions. It is an experientially based learning programme with an additional online component. Participants will engage in creative activities that will enhance personal development, develop insight and awareness, and contribute to understanding, and meeting, the needs of all children including those living in adverse circumstances. Directive and non-directive therapeutic approaches will be addressed.

## **Programme Aims**

- Equip participants with skills to plan and deliver, individual and group, developmentally appropriate play interventions with children and young people;
- Enable learners to focus on meeting children's specific needs and facilitate therapeutic interventions in the context of their holistic development using play;
- Enable participants to use play as a therapeutic and developmental medium in a wide range of settings including educational/learning, residential and day care, recreational and hospital;
- Equip the learner with the knowledge, skill and competence to use play and its developmental, educational and therapeutic applications.

## **This programme is suitable for those who:**

- Have a particular interest in the therapeutic powers of play and wish to acquire skills to facilitate children and young people to overcome negative influences and circumstances in their lives.
- Wish to attain a recognized qualification and embark on, or enhance, a professional career in working with children in a range of settings.
- Wish to further their own knowledge and understanding of play and its developmental, educational and therapeutic applications.
- Would like to upskill to enhance employment prospects and/or job satisfaction and promotion opportunities

This award will also be of interest to holders of the Certificate in Early Childhood Care and Education and to others including teachers, therapists, social workers etc whose professional life brings them into regular contact with at-risk children and children in crisis. It is also suitable for parents of children with disabilities or difficulties, and a broad range of childcare staff in community based or residential settings.

To access this programme learners should have reached the standards of knowledge, skills and competence associated with level 5 on the National Framework of Qualifications. This may have been achieved through a formal qualification or through relevant life and work experiences.

**Cost: €680 (Payment plan options available on request)**

**Location:** Dromore National School, Crossroads, Killygordon, Co Donegal

Note: This programme runs at a number of locations around Ireland.

## Content

Unit 1 – Play, Child Development, and Service Provision

Unit 2 – Plan for and Support Self-directed Play

Unit 3 – Planning and Implementing Play Interventions: Non Directive Play Skills

Unit 4 – Planning and Implementing Play Interventions: Therapeutic Storytelling

Unit 5 – Planning and implementing Play Interventions: Creative Visualization

Unit 6 – Planning and Implementing Play Interventions: Interactive Play

Unit 7 – Planning and Implementing Play Interventions: Therapeutic Use of Puppets

Unit 8 – Planning and Implementing Play Interventions: Medical Play

Unit 9 – Working with Groups for Personal and Social Development

Unit 10 – Professional Practice

On completion of the programme and the attainment of 15 credits the learner will be awarded a Level 6 component certificate in Therapeutic Play Skills. This can be used as a component of the Level 6 Major Award in Early Childhood Care and Education (6M2007) or other suitable Major Awards.

## Dates

This course will run on a series of Saturdays and Sundays, 10am – 5pm, in Spring 2018. A minimum number of participants is required, otherwise start will be delayed.

**Dates:** 16th & 17th February, 9th & 10th March, 20<sup>th</sup> & 21st April and 5th May 2018

**Online:** Each learner will also have access to the online component of this course for a three month period.

## Local Contact & Facilitator

**Nicola Kee, MIAPT** is a Psychotherapist with a Specialisation in Play Therapy. She has a BA (Hons) in Childhood Studies with Behavioural Studies and a BA (Hons) in Social Studies in Social Care. She also holds a Certificate in Autism Studies. For over 20 years Nicola has been working with parents and their children who experience psychological distress such as trauma, bereavement, parental separation and separation anxiety. She also works with issues concerning adoption, attachment and behavioural difficulties. Nicola also has a background in working with children with disability using therapeutic play to aid their learning and development.

Nicola Kee: nicolakee29@gmail.com: 087 6469254

## Applications

Applications are accepted by letter giving details of the applicants name, address, email and phone numbers, educational background, current employment, and reasons for wishing to complete the course. An up to date CV should be included. We will need your date of birth and PPS number to register you for the course.

Successful applicants may need to be garda vetted prior to completing practical assignments in an early years, education or healthcare setting. Please indicate in application letter if you have already been Garda vetted and if you have access to children in a suitable work (paid or voluntary) setting within which you could complete play sessions.

Post letter of application and CV to: Children's Therapy Centre, Slievenagorta, Ballymore, Mullingar, Co Westmeath or email to [siobhan@onlinectc.com](mailto:siobhan@onlinectc.com) Phone: 087 6488149

**Fees:** Payable directly to bank account (details available on playment plan sheet) or post to above address. Cheques, drafts, PO's payable to Children's Therapy Centre

**EARLY BOOKING IS ADVISED**