

# Therapeutic Play Skills Certificate

**Mountmellick, Co Laois**

**February 3rd 2018**

Therapeutic Play Skills is a 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 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)**

**Venue:** Listening Tree Play Therapy Centre, Mountmellick Development Association, Irishtown, Mountmellick, Co Laois

## 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 7 Saturdays beginning on 3rd February 2018. Start time is 9.30am each day and usual finish time is 4.30pm.

**Dates:** 3rd February, 10<sup>th</sup> February, 24<sup>th</sup> February, 10<sup>th</sup> March, 24<sup>th</sup> March, 7<sup>th</sup> April, 21<sup>st</sup> April, Handing in assignments and closing 5<sup>th</sup> May

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

## Local Contact & Facilitator

**Monique McEvoy**, MIAPTP, Play and Creative Arts Therapist (dance & movement), who has worked for over 25 years supporting children and families in community and residential settings. Monique has extensive experience working with children experiencing social and emotional difficulties, intellectual disabilities, developmental delays, communication disorders, and children with Autism Spectrum Disorders. Monique facilitates children with special needs inclusion in mainstream pre-schools, offers staff support in early years school settings and works as a play therapist in community service and private practise at the Listening Tree Play Therapy Centre.

Monique McEvoy, [thelisteningtreeplaytherapy@yahoo.ie](mailto:thelisteningtreeplaytherapy@yahoo.ie)

Phone: 0894751059

## Applications

Applications are accepted by **letter/email** 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 brief CV to: Children's Therapy Centre, Slievenagorta, Ballymore, Mullingar, Co Westmeath or email to [childrenstherapycentre@gmail.com](mailto:childrenstherapycentre@gmail.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