

# Qualification Purpose Statement

## Qualification title

NCFE CACHE Level 3 Diploma in Counselling Skills (600/0727/8)

## Overview

The primary purpose of this qualification is to provide you with more in-depth knowledge of the use of counselling skills in everyday life and work.

The qualification aims to develop your counselling skills, develop your understanding of the different approaches involved in the use of counselling skills and to help you appreciate the importance of self-development.

The qualification has been developed in partnership with industry experts in a range of areas and is mapped against relevant National Occupational Standards (NOS) in Counselling, Health and Social Care, Mental Health and the National Health Service Knowledge and Skills Framework. It will provide you with a nationally recognised qualification in Counselling.

## Who is this qualification for?

This qualification is ideal for you if you are interested in using counselling skills as part of your functional role in a wide range of sector areas, or looking to progress towards accredited counsellor status with one of the counselling professional accrediting bodies.

This qualification won't qualify you to practice as a counsellor but will equip you to understand and use counselling skills.

## Age restrictions

You need to be at least 16 years old to take this qualification. Entry is at the discretion of the centre.

## Entry requirements

You don't need to have any specific prior learning requirements to take this qualification, but you may find it helpful if you've already achieved the NCFE CACHE Level 2 Certificate in Counselling Skills or a similar qualification.

## Qualification content

This qualification is made up of **5** mandatory units.

The following units are designed to develop your existing experience and understanding and will support you in developing counselling skills and knowledge:

- Unit 01 Developing counselling skills (12 credits)
- Unit 02 Theoretical approaches in the use of counselling skills (10 credits)
- Unit 03 Working ethically with counselling skills (6 credits)
- Unit 04 Counselling skills and diversity (6 credits)
- Unit 05 Counselling skills and personal development (6 credits)

You'll identify, practice and develop a range of interpersonal and counselling skills and have an opportunity to understand and evaluate key elements of the main theoretical approaches to counselling. You'll understand the context within which counselling skills and referral processes can be used whilst maintaining ethical standards and you'll understand the implications of applying counselling skills in a diverse society.

The qualification also provides you with the opportunity to reflect on your personal development and the way in which you interact with others.

## What type of qualification is this?

This is a vocational qualification with 270 guided learning hours. During this time you can expect to be involved in formal learning activities, which could include classes and tutorials and assessment where an Assessor is present. The remaining time required to complete this qualification will be spent researching and preparing for class-based activities.

100 per cent of the qualification focuses on the development of your counselling skills and knowledge across a wide range of sectors.

## Is this qualification part of an Apprenticeship?

This is not an Apprenticeship qualification.

## Progression opportunities

Successfully completing this qualification will support your progression to further study at the next level of vocational learning.

The following qualifications are available:

- Level 4 Diploma in Therapeutic Counselling
- Level 4 NVQ Diploma in Advice and Guidance
- Foundation Degrees in Counselling

This qualification does not qualify you to practice as a counsellor. However, it can support your progression within employment in a number of roles including:

- support worker (supported living)
- healthcare support service worker
- clinical healthcare support worker
- mental health support worker
- information, advice and guidance worker
- health education/health promotion worker.

## Similar qualifications

We also offer the a Level 3 Award in Counselling Skills and Theory. This is a smaller 12 credit course designed to introduce learners to counselling skills and to some of the approaches that underpin the use of counselling skills.

The NCFE CACHE Level 3 Diploma in Counselling Skills gives you more scope to explore counselling skills. The 40 credits you need to achieve this Diploma combine competence and knowledge to support you and develop your skills in counselling. This will give you a solid foundation for further study of counselling and ensures you meet the requirements for your professional development.

## Support for this qualification

The qualification is supported by colleges and training providers offering counselling provision.

For further information about these employers please contact CACHE on 0345 347 2123 or email us at [info@cache.org.uk](mailto:info@cache.org.uk).