



COUNSELLING  
TRAINING **HUB**

# Clarification & Understanding Regarding 'Accreditation' in Relation to Our Skills & Diploma Courses

It's important to clarify what you get at the end of our Skills & Diploma Courses.

## Meanings & Understanding:

**'Accredited' meaning** – A course that has been thoroughly examined and scrutinised to match a professional body's criteria and then endorsed by that professional body. Not necessarily linked to an examining body.

**'Examining Body' meaning** – A course that is designed and follows the syllabus of that examining body. Not necessarily linked to a professional body.

**The two main professional bodies that we are in contact with and that we all (the tutors) have personal membership with (either with one or with both) and follow their ethical principles are The National Counselling & Psychotherapy Society (NCPS) and The British Association of Counselling and Psychotherapy (BACP)**

## How We Work:

Courses can be accredited with an ethical professional body and that is done at the request of the individual training provider, and they will undertake being examined and scrutinised to gain the endorsement.

We at the **HUB** are currently working to align course material with National Counselling Psychotherapy Society (NCPS) standards and considering SCOPED requirements. We have chosen to do this; it is not a requirement for courses to be accredited.

Currently we are following the NCPS and BACP's criteria to meet the requirements of counselling training to enable our students to become 'student members' of either professional body and enjoy the benefits of the support from membership as they go through their training. It is generally considered that you are a 'qualified' counsellor after completing a Diploma course that meets these requirements.

Some examples of criteria the course must adhere to from The NCPS & BACP are:

- *The Diploma be at least one year's full time or two years part time*
- *Be either:*
  - *100% face to face classroom-based tuition*
  - *include at least 70% face to face classroom-based tuition and up to 30% live synchronous online training*
- *Include an integral, supervised placement of at least 100 client hours*

The placement hours must be:

- *Carried out with genuine clients*
- *Assessed (or marked) as an integral part of the training*
- *Delivered mostly face to face.*
- *Supervised - We recommend a ratio of one hour's supervision to eight hours counselling.*

Counselling is an unregulated industry, as such anyone can call themselves a counsellor and start to work with clients. **This is something that we do not endorse and consider to be unethical.** We aim to provide and encourage people to undertake training that will enable them to become a member of one of the counselling ethical professional bodies.

At **The Counselling Training HUB** we have taken the decision to provide a vocational course designed and delivered by practising counsellors that meets the requirements of the ethical bodies without needing to align with an examining body such as CPCAB. Hence why we may refer to the course being a 'level 4 equivalent'. If we were to align with an examining body and run their course, the course would be called 'level 4'. Having an examining body directing the course is not a requirement from either the BACP or NCPS, so 'level 4' or 'level 4 equivalent' is the minimum level that you need to pass to be considered as being a 'qualified' counsellor.

***So ultimately, by taking our course, you'll be undertaking training that is undergoing scrutiny by the NCPS, heading towards a recognition award for 2026/27. But in the meantime (while we are working towards that) our courses tick all the boxes by adhering to the criteria as laid out by the NCPS and BACP to enable students to gain the benefit of individual student membership with them whilst training with us.***

**In addition, by not being a part of an examining body, we are able to design the courses ourselves and teach what we consider to be a very relevant, interesting and modern set of courses, equipping each student in all areas to feel accomplished and confident when it comes to eventually helping their clients.**

**A course designed by counsellors for counsellors**