

Hounslow Youth Counselling Service

SELECTION CRITERIA FOR VOLUNTEER COUNSELLORS

1. Willingness to be a counsellor working with the needs, issues and best interests of young people.
2. Time, energy and resources to be able to work with Hounslow Youth Counselling Service. This will include a commitment to:
 - A minimum of one session of 3 to 4 hours per week (3 clients per week)
 - Attendance at one hour of supervision for every 6 – 8 hours of counselling or at least 1½ per month, with a supervisor allocated by this service
 - Attendance at approximately one hour, on average, of counsellor meetings per month for general service business and policy decision making.
 - Attendance at two full counsellor meetings per year.
 - Attendance at outreach support groups at least 4 times per year if applicable
 - Attendance once per year with your team leader for managerial supervision with additional meetings as necessary
 - Attendance at the Service AGM
 - Attendance at 3 Hounslow Youth Counselling Service training days per year or equivalent as agreed in your CPD plan
3. Ability and willingness to work as an effective member of the team.
4. Have completed a minimum of 1 year humanistic or humanistic based integrative counselling skills and theory training on an approved (by HYCS) course at degree, diploma or Master's level and be studying in the second or final year
OR completed 3 years diploma level training
OR have qualified on an approved course and working towards accreditation with BACP or equivalent (UKCP, BPS or IPN)
5. A commitment to engage in on-going CPD (continuing Professional Development) while with the Service, which will follow HYCS CPD policy guidelines, including training and further self-development, such as personal therapy.
6. Willingness, honesty, and openness for effective supervision to take place.
7. An ability to learn, to use and to develop the skills necessary to counsel young people.
8. An understanding of the Person Centred approach to counselling and an agreement to use this approach with Service clients.
9. An understanding of and a commitment to equal opportunities and anti-discriminatory practice.
10. Understanding of the need for confidentiality and an undertaking to follow Hounslow Youth Counselling Service policy on this matter.
11. Sufficient understanding of the counselling process and relationship so that a realistic decision can be made on whether to join this service or not.
12. Willingness to evaluate one's attitudes, feelings and beliefs and learn from such an experience.
13. A willingness to follow the policies of the Management Committee and the Constitution and if either is felt to be inappropriate or inadequate to seek to make changes through discussion and democratic processes.