

APPROVED PROGRAMMES

PROFESSIONAL IN PRACTICE FRAMEWORK

NI SOCIAL CARE COUNCIL



NI Social Care Council - Professional in Practice Framework (PiP) Approved Programmes

PiP offers a wide range of taught programmes to enhance social work professional practice and competence. Social workers at different stages of their career may choose to embark on formal assessed professional development to consolidate undergraduate learning or to specialise in practice. There is flexibility to complete just one module or an entire programme.

This document provides 'at a glance' details of all programmes and lists them under their relevant PiP Professional Awards – Consolidation Award, Specialist Award or Leadership & Strategic Award. Please note that a few programmes are approved for both Specialist and Leadership/Strategic awards and will therefore be listed under each relevant award.

If you are unsure which programmes may be relevant to you or require further information on how the programmes will help to meet your learning and development needs within your employment, please consult your PiP Agency Representative.

Many Programmes offer the opportunity to continue to a Master's Degree via a selection of pathways. Selection can be made within each of these, for completion of partial or full academic/professional awards. There is one overarching umbrella Programme at Ulster University and selection of modules/programmes within that can lead to an MSc in Professional Development. Many of the Queen's University programmes also allow similar progression.

The PiP Approved Programmes also include additional provision by two other Education Providers: The Health and Social Care Leadership Centre and The Tavistock and Portman NHS Trust in collaboration with University of Essex.

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**NORTHERN IRELAND SOCIAL CARE COUNCIL
PROFESSIONAL IN PRACTICE APPROVED PROGRAMMES**

CONSOLIDATION AWARD IN SOCIAL WORK

Cognitive Behaviour Practice Programme Postgraduate Certificate Queen’s University, Belfast (QUB)				
Module Title	Module Code	Professional Requirements	Academic Credits	Location & Contact Details Queen’s University, Belfast Academic Contact: Dr Michael Duffy Programme Co-ordinator QUB Tel: 90973298 Email: michael.duffy@qub.ac.uk Postgraduate Office: Maria McQuillan Email: maria.mcquillan@qub.ac.uk
Postgraduate Certificate and Full Consolidation Award when Modules 1-4 are undertaken				
Mental Health Awareness, Engagement and Assessment	SWK8092	Consolidation Award Requirements 1 and 5	15 credits at M Level	
Evidence-based Low Intensity Psychological Intervention	SWK8093	Consolidation Award Requirements 3 and 4	15 credits at M Level	
Introduction to CBT Theories and Methods	SWK8094	Consolidation Award Requirement 2	15 credits at M Level	
Providing Psychological Interventions at Levels 1 & 2	SWK8095	Consolidation Award Requirements 6	15 credits at M Level	
See Specialist Award list for Postgraduate Diploma				

Target Group

The course is available to all health and social care professional groups who wish to learn basic Cognitive Behavioural Therapy methods. The Postgraduate Certificate is offered in two 12-week semesters over one year.

Delivery

The course is delivered by a multi-disciplinary group of accredited skilled Cognitive Behavioural Therapy staff currently involved in clinical practice and research.

Focus

The main aim of this course is to inform practice within levels 1 and 2 of a stepped care model (low-intensity psychological interventions) for mental health and in primary care or social care settings. The course will provide teaching and learning in mental health awareness, an introduction to CBT theory and methods and low intensity interventions for professionals working in health and social care programmes.

Assessment

Assessment is by essays, case studies and DVD-Recorded role plays.

Entry Criteria

All applicants must have:

- 2:2 Honours degree or equivalent qualification acceptable to the university. Applicants who do not meet this academic requirement but hold a professional qualification will be considered on an individual basis
- Evidence of working with people who have experienced a mental health problem
- A broad understanding of mental health issues
- Good written and verbal communication skills
- Good organisational and computer skills
- Be enrolled on the PiP Consolidation Award via the Social Care Council portal.

MSc in Professional Development: Initial Professional Development Programme Postgraduate Certificate Ulster University (UU)

Module Title	Module Code	Professional Requirements	Academic Credits	Location & Contact Details
Postgraduate Certificate and Full Consolidation Award when both Modules 1 & 2 are undertaken				Employer based in collaboration with UU
Developing Self and Inter-Personal Practice	SWK764	Consolidation Award Requirements 1, 5 and 6	30 credits at M Level	Employer Agency Representative Contacts: BHSCT Email: jacqueline.mcgarry@belfasttrust.hscni.net Tel: 07803438187 NHSCT Email: diane.mcgarvey@northerntrust.hscni.net Tel: 028 94416592 SEHSCT E-mail: robby.nelson@setrust.hscni.net Tel: 028 92604031 SHSCT E-mail: Frances.Kelly@southerntrust.hscni.net Tel: 028 38324594 WHSCT Email: Kitty.downey@westerntrust.hscni.net University Academic Contact: Dr Shaun Roddy Programme Co-ordinator, UU Email: S.rodgy@ulster.ac.uk Tel: 02871675017 Programme Admin Clare van der Veen IPD@southerntrust.hscni.net
Working with complexity across service user contexts	SWK765	Consolidation Award Requirements 2, 3 and 4	30 credits at M Level	

Target Group

All modules are designed for: newly qualified social workers who have completed their assessed year in employment (AYE); for social workers moving to Northern Ireland; those entering a new area of practice; those returning to the workforce after a period of absence.

All modules aim to support you in understanding academic and professional knowledge, including research necessary to develop the professional practice skills to address complex issues systematically and creatively. Each module will assist you to develop sound professional judgement, professional responsibility and initiative in complex and unpredictable social work practice environments.

Delivery

The programme is delivered by staff at Ulster University and Employer Agency Representatives across the Voluntary and Statutory sectors.

Focus

The IPD programme requires you to have the ability to reflect on and to demonstrate, how you have developed your professional competence beyond qualification. This requires critical thinking not only on your own area of practice but also on wider developments in social work/welfare that can, and do, impact on direct practice.

The IPD programme therefore is committed to a learning environment that stimulates you to think critically and to reflect on the realities of your practice and its impact on service users.

The emphasis will be on encouraging critical debate and discussion rather than on providing definitive statements regarding competence. The expectation is that you will take responsibility for your own learning, supported by the teaching team.

Competence is defined as “the application of knowledge, skills and values in the workplace, to agreed standards”. Thus, what is being developed and assessed throughout the IPD programme is not only the acquisition and development of information and practice skills and the processing of values and ethical issues but also the standard to which these are applied in your practice.

Assessment

A variety of assessment methods include online activities, an online journal, assignments, extended essays and portfolio.

Entry Criteria

This course is offered to practicing social workers who meet the entry criteria. To undertake the PgDip/MSc in Professional Development in Social Work, applicants must meet all of the following criteria:

- Be registered with NI Social Care Council as a qualified social worker.
- Be enrolled with NI Social Care Council on the Professional in Practice (PIP) post qualifying framework.
- Be engaged for a minimum of 12 hours per week (paid or voluntary) in a post where core social work values underpin practice and which provides supervised opportunity to practice social work in a professional role with direct practice with service users, families, groups and communities including (management, training, organisational development) roles.
- Have the support of employer or voluntary work supervisor to undertake programme of study.
- Successful completion of an Assessed Year in Employment (AYE) or equivalent if qualified or employed outside Northern Ireland.
- Satisfy Ulster University and NI Social Care Council of their ability to undertake study at postgraduate degree level, by holding one of the following:
 1. an honours or non-honours degree
 2. an equivalent standard (normally 50%) in a graduate certificate or graduate diploma
 3. a postgraduate certificate or postgraduate diploma or an approved alternative qualification

Applicants who do not meet the above criteria are required to demonstrate, through Accredited Prior Experiential Learning, their ability to undertake study at postgraduate degree level. Applicants are required to successfully complete a 2000-word assignment or 20 minutes presentation in which they provide a critical appraisal of their role as a social worker.

MSc in Professional Development: The Probation Professional Practice Consolidation Pathway
Programme
PG Certificate
Probation Board for Northern Ireland / Ulster University (UU)

Module Title	Module Code	Professional Requirements	Academic Credits	Location & Contact Details
Postgraduate Certificate and Full Consolidation Award when both Modules 1 – 2 are undertaken				Employer based in collaboration - Probation Board for NI (PBNI) / Ulster University Employer Agency Representative Contact: Ms Emma Richmond Probation Board for NI Learning and Development 2 nd Floor 3 Wellington Court BALLYMENA BT43 6EQ Email: Emma.Richmond@probation-ni.gov.uk Tel: 028 25662364 UU Academic Contact: Sean McEntee Programme Co-ordinator Ulster University Email: s.mcentee@ulster.ac.uk
Probation Observed Professional Practice	SWK701	Consolidation Award Requirements: 1, 4 and 5	30 credits at M Level	
Risk of Harm in Practice	SWK714	Consolidation Award Requirements: 2, 3 and 6	30 credits at M Level	

Target Group

The Consolidation Award modules (**SWK701, SWK714**) are designed for probation officers/criminal justice social workers who: are newly qualified and have completed their assessed year in employment (AYE); are entering a new area of practice; are returning to the workforce after a period of absence; or have recently moved to Northern Ireland.

Delivery

The programme is delivered by PBNi staff in collaboration with Ulster University.

Focus

The Probation Professional Practice programme requires you to have the ability to reflect on and to demonstrate, how you have developed your professional competence beyond qualification.

This requires critical thinking not only on your own area of practice but also on wider developments in social work/welfare that can and do, impact on direct practice. The programme is therefore committed to a learning environment that stimulates you to think critically and to reflect on the realities of your practice and its impact on service users.

The emphasis will be on encouraging critical debate and discussion rather than on providing definitive statements regarding competence. The expectation is that you will take responsibility for your own learning, supported by the teaching team.

Competence is defined as “the application of knowledge, skills and values in the workplace, to agreed standards”. Thus, what is being developed and assessed throughout the programme is not only the acquisition and development of information and practice skills and the processing of values and ethical issues, but also the standard to which these are applied in your practice.

The content focusses on law, theory, policy, procedures and practice issues (inc relevant PBNi Standards) in relation to young people and adults who have committed criminal offences and explores ethical responses in assessing, responding to and managing this behaviour, rooted in a social work value base. The course will address issues of causation, risk, motivation, choice and change; professional report writing and record keeping; decision making systems; inter-professional and inter-agency working; assessment and planning tools particular to people who have committed criminal offences.

Assessment

Assessment is based around three pieces of coursework:

- A service user assessment in relation to offending behaviour e.g. Pre-Sentence Report, Suitability for Hostel Placement, or other related assessment. Candidate to complete a 2000-word analysis, evaluation and reflection on piece of work.
- A work/supervision plan in relation to a person involved in offending behaviour. Candidate to complete a 2000-word analysis, evaluation and reflection on, piece of work.

- An observed interaction, implementing any aspect of action phase of a programme of intervention aimed at addressing offending behaviour. The assignment will be based upon the live observation of the candidate's practice. Candidates will prepare a 500-word outline and analysis of the purpose and aims of the session, to be with their practice assessor prior to the observation, and will then complete a further 1500-word analysis, evaluation and reflection on the session, also incorporating their learning in relation to feedback from the observer.

Entry Criteria

This course is offered to practising social workers who meet the entry requirements.

To undertake the PgDip/MSc Professional Development in Social Work, applicants must meet all of the following criteria:

- Be registered with NI Social Care Council as a qualified social worker.
- Be enrolled with NI Social Care Council on the Professional in Practice (PIP) post qualifying framework.
- Be engaged for a minimum of 12 hours per week (paid or voluntary) in a post where core social work values underpin practice and which provides supervised opportunity to practice social work in a professional role with direct practice with service users, families, groups and communities including (management, training, organisational development) roles.
- Have the support of employer or voluntary work supervisor to undertake programme of study.
- Successful completion of an Assessed Year in Employment (AYE) or equivalent if qualified or employed outside Northern Ireland.

Satisfy Ulster University and NI Social Care Council of their ability to undertake study at postgraduate degree level, by holding one of the following:

1. an honours or non-honours degree
2. an equivalent standard (normally 50%) in a graduate certificate or graduate diploma
3. a postgraduate certificate or postgraduate diploma or an approved alternative qualification

Applicants who do not meet the above criteria are required to demonstrate, through Accredited Prior Experiential Learning, their ability to undertake study at postgraduate degree level. Applicants are required to successfully complete a 2000-word assignment or 20 minutes presentation in which they provide a critical appraisal of their role as a social worker.

Advanced Social Work with Children, Young People and Families Programme Postgraduate Certificate Queen's University, Belfast (QUB)

Module Title	Module Code	Professional Requirements	Academic Credits	Location & Contact Details
Postgraduate Certificate and Full Consolidation Award when Modules 1-3 are undertaken				Queen's University, Belfast Academic Contact: Professor Lisa Bunting Programme Director QUB Tel: +44 028 90971482 Email: l.bunting@qub.ac.uk Postgraduate Office: Maria McQuillan Email: maria.mcquillan@qub.ac.uk
Contemporary Issues and Knowledge in Children's Social Care	SWK8116	Consolidation Award Requirements 2 and 5	20 credits at M Level	
An introduction to core Systemic Practice principles, skills and techniques in child and family social work settings	SWK8117	Consolidation Award Requirements 1 and 6	20 credits at M Level	
Supporting children and families and enhancing capacity for change	SWK8118	Consolidation Award Requirements 3 and 4	20 credits at M Level	
See Specialist Award list for Postgraduate Diploma				
<p>Target Group The programme is open to those who have completed their AYE and want to develop advanced knowledge and skills to enhance their practice within their current work setting, while also strengthening professional identity, self-awareness and reflective capacity.</p> <p>Delivery The programme is delivered through a mixture of lectures, small group teaching, skills workshops and practice-related assessment methods.</p> <p>Focus The programme aims to develop advanced knowledge and skills in child and family social work to enhance practice across statutory and voluntary settings, while also strengthening professional identity, self-awareness and reflective capacity. Through a mixture of lectures, small group teaching, skills workshops</p>				

and practice-related assessment methods, the programme emphasises the translation of learning into effective practice through a clear focus on critical thinking and skills development linked to the student's practice context, thereby promoting innovation, evaluation and accountability in practice.

Assessment

Assessment is written assignment and oral presentation, including reflective practice learning portfolio and annotated case-based presentation.

Entry Criteria

All applicants must:

- Possess a social work qualification recognised by the Northern Ireland Social Care Council.
- Be registered with the Council and have completed the Assessed Year in Employment or have at least one year's post-qualifying experience if graduated prior to the AYE implementation.
- Be enrolled on the relevant PiP Award via the Social Care Council portal.
- All applicants must be currently engaged for at least 12 hours per week in a children's social care setting in a capacity in which core social work values underpin their practice with service users or carers.
- Applicants should normally hold a second-class honours degree or higher. Where this academic requirement is not met, they must satisfy the programme lead that their experience and qualifications equip them to undertake postgraduate study through a written assignment.

Systemic Practice & Family Therapy Programme
PGCert/Dip
Queen's University, Belfast (QUB)

Module Title	Module Code	Professional Requirements	Academic Credits	Location & Contact Details
Year one: Postgraduate Certificate and Full <u>Consolidation</u> Award when Year 1 is undertaken (Modules 1-3)			60 credits at M Level	Queen’s University Belfast Academic Contact: Ms Suzanne Mooney Programme Director Email: s.mooney@qub.ac.uk Tel: 90973641 Postgraduate Office: Maria McQuillan Email: maria.mcquillan@qub.ac.uk
1: Introduction to Systemic Theory, Research and Practice	SWK8058	<u>Consolidation</u> Award Requirements 1 and 2		
2: Systemic Practice Skills and their Application to the Work Setting	SWK8059	<u>Consolidation</u> Award Requirements 3 and 5		
3: Personal and Professional Development in Systemic Practice	SWK8065	<u>Consolidation</u> Award Requirements 4 and 6		
Year Two: Postgraduate Diploma and Full <u>Specialist</u> Award when Year 2 is undertaken (Modules 4-6)				
4: Theory, Practice and Research in Family and Systemic Practice	SWK8066	<u>Specialist</u> Award Requirements 1 and 4		
5: Systemic Practice Skills and their Application to the Work Setting	SWK8067	<u>Specialist</u> Award Requirements 5, 7 and 9		
6: Personal/Professional Development in Systemic Practice <i>On completion of both years you are deemed trained as a ‘Systemic Practitioner’</i>	SWK8068	<u>Specialist</u> Award Requirements 2, 3, 6 and 8		

<p><i>For Years 3 and 4 (AFT approved qualifying level training) see “MSc Systemic Psychotherapy (QUB)” in Leadership/Strategic Award Section</i></p>				
<p>Target Group This one-year programme is designed for multidisciplinary professionals working with individuals or relationship/family groups in a wide range of contexts – both child/family and adult services, in the statutory and voluntary sectors. Relevant settings include family support and child protection; children in care; fostering and adoption; mental health; substance use; justice; physical health and disability; elderly; and adult safeguarding. Systemic practice helps people in close relationships to better understand and support each other. It enables people to express and explore difficult thoughts and emotions safely, understand each other’s experiences and views, appreciate each other’s needs, build on strengths, and work together to make useful changes in their relationships and their lives.</p> <p>Delivery The programme is applicable to multidisciplinary professionals (e.g. social work, clinical psychology, nursing, psychiatry) working in a wide range of child and adult settings (e.g. family support, child protection, care experienced children services, residential, mental health, physical health and disability, elderly, adult safeguarding and youth justice). Students receive recognition from Association of Family Therapy UK (AFT) as “Systemic Practitioners” on completion of year 2 of the programme (Postgraduate Diploma).</p> <p>Focus These programmes help practitioners in different settings and roles to understand the core concepts of contemporary systemic practice and use systemic skills and techniques to maximise engagement with individual service users (both adults and children) or relationship groups in their everyday work. Skills developed on these programmes align with NI strategic developments and priorities including the Mental Health Strategy; ‘Signs of Safety’; ‘Think Family’; NI Framework for Integrated Therapeutic Care for care experienced children; Trauma Informed Practice. The programme builds on learning achieved from year 1 to year 2 and provides a balance of academic theory, skills development, personal development, directly applicable to the student’s work setting.</p> <p>Assessment Candidates are assessed by assignments, projects, learning portfolios, oral presentations, seminar papers and 60 hours of systemic practice.</p> <p>Entry Criteria</p>				

All social work applicants must:

- Hold a recognised social work qualification and have successfully completed the Assessed Year in Employment.
- Be registered with the Northern Ireland Social Care Council.
- Normally have a 2.2 Honours degree or above or equivalent qualification acceptable to the University or Equivalent qualifications which include current PiP Framework Awards. Where this is not met, applicants must show that their experience and qualifications enable them to study at postgraduate level through the uptake of references and through completing a reflective assignment on their practice.
- Be currently employed in a clinical or practice setting with access to a suitable service user group for practice and supervision purposes.

Have enrolled on the PiP Specialist Award on the Northern Ireland Social Care Council's portal.

NORTHERN IRELAND SOCIAL CARE COUNCIL
PROFESSIONAL IN PRACTICE APPROVED PROGRAMMES

SPECIALIST AWARD IN SOCIAL WORK

MSc in Professional Development: Adult Safeguarding Programme PG Diploma Ulster University (UU)				
Module Title	Module Code	Professional Requirements	Academic Credits	Location & Contact Details
Postgraduate Diploma and Full Specialist Award when all 3 Modules are undertaken				Employer based in collaboration with UU Employer Agency Representative Contact: Dr Jacqueline McGarry BHSC Email: jacqueline.mcgarry@belfasttrust.hscni.net Tel: 07803438187 Academic Contact: Patricia Burns Programme Co-Ordinator Email: p.burns1@ulster.ac.uk Tel: 02871675216 Administrator Contact Email: AdultSafeguardProg@belfasttrust.hscni.net
Specialist Practice in Adult Safeguarding Core Module	SWK747	Specialist Award Requirements 1, 5 and 7	30 credits at M Level	
Collaboration in Adult Safeguarding Practice Core Module	SWK748	Specialist Award Requirements 2,6, and 9	30 credits at M Level	
Enabling Others through Evidence-informed Practice in Adult Safeguarding Core Module	SWK749	Specialist Award Requirements 3, 4 and 8	30 credits at M Level	

Target Group

The programme is aimed at social workers providing a safeguarding service to adults who have complex needs. It is designed to meet the aspirations of staff who wish to access high quality, relevant and appropriate training across a range of adult services contexts.

Delivery

The programme runs for one calendar year and is delivered by Ulster University in collaboration with Employer Agency staff. It has been designed with input from trainers and practitioners who specialise in safeguarding adults to ensure relevance.

Method of delivery will be blended Face to Face and Online.

Focus

The programme, endorsed by DHSSPS/DOJ, has been designed in collaboration with key stakeholders to enable and facilitate professional learning and development in the context of adult safeguarding. The programme offers high quality, relevant and specialist higher education to support practice development in adult social work. The combination of modules enables social workers to develop their knowledge, skills and ethical practice; critically appraise research; confidently and competently apply learning to practice.

The Adult Safeguarding Programme (ASP) is a postgraduate part-time programme comprising of three 30 academic credit modules.

- SWK747: Specialist Practice in Adult Safeguarding
- SWK749: Enabling Others through Evidence-informed Practice in Adult Safeguarding
- SWK748: Collaboration in Adult Safeguarding Practice

Assessment

Assessment methods include assignments; direct observations by the practice assessor; presentation observed by practice assessor; observation of practice simulation; preparation, planning and critical evaluation of presentation and observation; formal test of knowledge.

Entry Criteria

You are required to:

- Hold current registration with NI Social Care Council as a qualified social worker
- Enrol with NI Social Care Council on the Professional in Practice (PiP) post-qualifying framework
- Satisfy Ulster University and NI Social Care Council of your ability to undertake study at postgraduate degree level, by holding one of the following:
- an honours or non-honours degree

- an equivalent standard (normally 50%) in a graduate certificate or graduate diploma
- a postgraduate certificate or postgraduate diploma or an approved alternative qualification Adult Safeguarding Programme
- Be in employment in a post where the core social work activities of assessment, planning, intervention and evaluation underpin your practice. This can be part time, but you must be able to meet the course requirements in terms of hours of teaching, private study, and supervised practice.
- Have a minimum of two years' post-qualifying social work experience
- Have completed your Mandatory 2 PiP Requirements Compliance (NI Social Care Council)
- Have the support (including regarding supervision) of your employer or supervisor if voluntary work to undertake study (verification of this may be required)
- Have the agreement of your employer or supervisor of voluntary work that the work of the organisation can be presented* in order to meet the requirements of the module
- Have successfully fulfilled the AYE requirements and have a supervisor who is a qualified social worker
- Have completed Safeguarding Adults training up to Investigating Officer or Designated Adult Protection Officer (DAPO) level or be able to demonstrate complexity of work sufficient to meet assessment requirements (Desirable).

Applicants who do not meet the above criteria are required to demonstrate, through Accredited Prior Experiential Learning, their ability to undertake study at postgraduate degree level. Applicants are required to successfully complete a 2000-word assignment or 20 minutes presentation in which they provide a critical appraisal of their role as a social worker.

Systemic Practice & Family Therapy Programme
PGCert/Dip
Queen's University, Belfast (QUB)

Module Title	Module Code	Professional Requirements	Academic Credits	Location & Contact Details
Year one: Postgraduate Certificate (Module 1-3)			60 credits at M Level	Queen’s University Belfast Academic Contact: Ms Suzanne Mooney Programme Director Email: s.mooney@qub.ac.uk Tel: 90973641 Postgraduate Office: Maria McQuillan Email: maria.mcquillan@qub.ac.uk
1: Introduction to Systemic Theory, Research and Practice	SWK8058	Consolidation Award Requirements 1 and 2		
2: Systemic Practice Skills and their Application to the Work Setting	SWK8059	Consolidation Award Requirements 3 and 5		
3: Personal and Professional Development in Systemic Practice	SWK8065	Consolidation Award Requirements 4 and 6		
Year Two: Postgraduate Diploma and Full Specialist Award when (Module 1-3 & Module 4-6) are both completed				
4: Theory, Practice and Research in Family and Systemic Practice	SWK8066	Specialist Award Requirements 1 and 4		
5: Systemic Practice Skills and their Application to the Work Setting	SWK8067	Specialist Award Requirements 5, 7 and 9		
6: Personal/Professional Development in Systemic Practice <i>On completion of both years you are deemed trained as a ‘Systemic Practitioner’</i>	SWK8068	Specialist Award Requirements 2, 3, 6 and 8		

<p><i>For Years 3 and 4 (AFT approved qualifying level training) see “MSc Systemic Psychotherapy (QUB)” in Leadership/Strategic Award Section</i></p>				
<p>Target Group This one-year programme is designed for multidisciplinary professionals working with individuals or relationship/family groups in a wide range of contexts – both child/family and adult services, in the statutory and voluntary sectors. Relevant settings include family support and child protection; children in care; fostering and adoption; mental health; substance use; justice; physical health and disability; elderly; and adult safeguarding. Systemic practice helps people in close relationships to better understand and support each other. It enables people to express and explore difficult thoughts and emotions safely, understand each other’s experiences and views, appreciate each other’s needs, build on strengths, and work together to make useful changes in their relationships and their lives.</p> <p>Delivery The programme is applicable to multidisciplinary professionals (e.g. social work, clinical psychology, nursing, psychiatry) working in a wide range of child and adult settings (e.g. family support, child protection, care experienced children services, residential, mental health, physical health and disability, elderly, adult safeguarding and youth justice). Students receive recognition from Association of Family Therapy UK (AFT) as “Systemic Practitioners” on completion of year 2 of the programme (Postgraduate Diploma).</p> <p>Focus These programmes help practitioners in different settings and roles to understand the core concepts of contemporary systemic practice and use systemic skills and techniques to maximise engagement with individual service users (both adults and children) or relationship groups in their everyday work. Skills developed on these programmes align with NI strategic developments and priorities including the Mental Health Strategy; ‘Signs of Safety’; ‘Think Family’; NI Framework for Integrated Therapeutic Care for care experienced children; Trauma Informed Practice. The programme builds on learning achieved from year 1 to year 2 and provides a balance of academic theory, skills development, personal development, directly applicable to the student’s work setting.</p> <p>Assessment Candidates are assessed by assignments, projects, learning portfolios, oral presentations, seminar papers and 60 hours of systemic practice.</p> <p>Entry Criteria</p>				

All social work applicants must:

- Hold a recognised social work qualification and have successfully completed the Assessed Year in Employment.
- Be registered with the Northern Ireland Social Care Council.
- Normally have a 2.2 Honours degree or above or equivalent qualification acceptable to the University or Equivalent qualifications which include current PiP Framework Awards. Where this is not met, applicants must show that their experience and qualifications enable them to study at postgraduate level through the uptake of references and through completing a reflective assignment on their practice.
- Be currently employed in a clinical or practice setting with access to a suitable service user group for practice and supervision purposes.

Have enrolled on the PiP Specialist Award on the Northern Ireland Social Care Council's portal.

Cognitive Behavioural Psychotherapy Programme Postgraduate Diploma Queen's University, Belfast (QUB)

Module Title	Module Code	Professional Requirements	Academic Credits	Location & Contact Details
Postgraduate Diploma and Full Specialist Award when modules 1-5 PLUS one optional module are undertaken				Queen’s University, Belfast
Core Concepts & Skills of Cognitive Behavioural Psychotherapy for Depression	CBP7101	Specialist Award Requirement 1 and 6	20 credits at M Level	Dr Michael Duffy Programme Co-ordinator QUB Tel: 90973298 Email: michael.duffy@qub.ac.uk Postgraduate Office: Maria McQuillan Email: maria.mcquillan@qub.ac.uk
Cognitive Behavioural Psychotherapy for Anxiety Disorders	CBP7102	Specialist Award Requirement 4 and 7	20 credits at M Level	
Training Supervision of the Application of CBP Models and Skills for Depression & Anxiety Disorders	CBP7103	Specialist Award Requirement 3 and 8	20 credits at M Level	
Cognitive Behavioural Psychotherapy for Complex Disorders	CBP7104	Specialist Award Requirement 9	20 credits at M Level	
Training Supervision for the Application of CBP Models and Skills for Complex Disorders	CBP7105	Specialist Award Requirement 2 and 5	20 credits at M Level	
Evidence Based Practice Optional	HSN7076	Specialist Award Requirement 4	20 credits at M Level	
Self-Practice / Self Reflection in CBP Optional	SWK7106	Specialist Award Requirement 7	20 credits at M Level	
Target Group The course is available to all health and social care professional groups who wish to learn basic Cognitive Behavioural Therapy methods. The Postgraduate Certificate is offered in two 12-week semesters over one year.				

Delivery

The course is delivered by a multi-disciplinary group of accredited skilled Cognitive Behavioural Therapy staff currently involved in clinical practice and research.

Focus

The main aim of this course is to inform practice within levels 1 and 2 of a stepped care model (low-intensity psychological interventions) for mental health and in primary care or social care settings. The course will provide teaching and learning in mental health awareness, an introduction to CBT theory and methods and low intensity interventions for professionals working in health and social care programmes.

Assessment

Assessment is by essays, case studies and DVD-Recorded role plays.

Entry Criteria

All applicants must have:

- 2:2 Honours degree or equivalent qualification acceptable to the university. Applicants who do not meet this academic requirement but hold a professional qualification will be considered on an individual basis
- Evidence of working with people who have experienced a mental health problem
- A broad understanding of mental health issues
- Good written and verbal communication skills
- Good organisational and computer skills

Been enrolled on the PiP Consolidation Award on the Social Care Council portal.

Leaders in Practice (Managing Effective Practice) HSC Leadership Centre

Module Title	Module Code	Professional Requirements	Academic Credits	Location & Contact Details
Personal Effectiveness	LIPMEP 001 -	Specialist Award Requirement 1	Not academically approved	HSC Leadership Centre
Managing Change and Improving Your Service	LIPMEP 002 -	Specialist Award Requirement 7		Contact: Fidelma Carolan Course Co-Ordinator Email: Fidelma.Carolan@leadership.hscni.net
Leading Teams and Managing Risk	LIPMEP 003 –	Specialist Award Requirement 8		
Leadership and Enhanced Performance	LIPMEP 004 -	Specialist Award Requirement 3		Tel: 9536 1750
				Admin - Carla.brandan@leadership.hscni.net

Target Group

This course is designed for social workers who have transitioned into team leading roles.

Delivery

A blend of in person and virtual settings, practical workshops, reflective exercises, assessments and peer learning.

Focus

The programme aims to equip participants with the essential skills, mindset, and competencies needed to embrace leadership responsibilities with increased confidence. It explores the unique role of social work in multi-disciplinary and multi-agency contexts and some of the challenges experienced in the workplace.

Assessment

Participants must complete an activity workbook with a series of tasks which facilitate application of the learning in the workplace. Assessments are marked pass or fail. Where an assessment is below the standard, participants will be given feedback and offered a chance to reflect further and resubmit.

A random selection of assessments is second marked by the internal assessor and further verified by an external assessor for the purposes of quality assurance and consistency. The external assessor will also arrange to meet with the class to get feedback on their experience.

Entry Criteria

All applicants must:

- Possess a social work qualification recognised by the Northern Ireland Social Care Council.
- Be registered with the Council and have completed the Assessed Year in Employment or have at least one year's post-qualifying experience if graduated prior to the AYE implementation.
- Be enrolled on the relevant PiP Award via the Social Care Council portal.
- Be in a team lead role.
- Only those with a social work degree will be eligible for PIP.

MSc in Professional Development: NI Practice Teacher Training Programme
PG Dip Professional Development in Social Work
Ulster University (UU)

Module Title	Module Code	Professional Requirements	Academic Credits	Location & Contact Details
Postgraduate Diploma and Full Specialist Award: Modules 1 & 2				University of Ulster Academic Contact: Debbie Greaves Programme Co-ordinator, UU Tel: 028715458 Email: d.greaves@ulster.ac.uk Agency Contact: Mr Gerry Heery Programme Co-ordinator, BHSC Email: gerry.heery@belfasttrust.hscni.net Programme Administrator Email: nipttp.admin@belfasttrust.hscni.net Tel: 02895044778
Practice Teaching in Social Work Module 1	SWK745	Specialist Award Requirement 1, 6 and 9	30 credits at M level	
Practice Teaching in Social Work Module 2	SWK746	Specialist Award Requirement 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 and 8	60 Credits at M Level	
Target Group The programme is applicable to social workers who are 2 years qualified post AYE and wish to be Practice Teachers for students on the Degree in Social Work. The programme would be aimed at candidates who have consolidated practice in a particular area of work.				
Delivery The NIPTTP is jointly developed, delivered and assessed by Ulster University and NI Social Work Agency Partners. It is delivered using a hybrid approach, with some face-to-face sessions alongside online learning.				

Focus

The modules will:

- Support candidates with the direct task of supervising undergraduate social work students in order that they meet the practice learning requirements of the undergraduate degree in social work (BSc Hons Social Work)
- Ensure that successful candidates are able to manage, monitor and assess the undergraduate SW student's Practice Learning Opportunity (PLO)
- Align with candidates delivering an approved practice learning opportunity with the support of their agency and an allocated practice assessor.

SWK745 - This module will equip candidates with the knowledge and skills to design an appropriate induction programme and prepare competently for students from the regional BSc (Hons) Social Work courses completing their Practice Learning Opportunities with employers. This module will meet the following NISCC Professional in Practice (PiP) Requirements: Specialist Award Requirements 1, 6 and 9.

SWK746 - To provide candidates with an in-depth knowledge and understanding of practice learning including: the wider evidence and research on which it is based; the supervisory relationship/s; the practice learning requirements of the BSc (Hons) Social Work; the skills of formative and summative assessment. This module will meet the following NISCC Professional in Practice (PiP) Requirements: Specialist Award Requirements 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 & 8

Assessment

Students are required to complete a number of preparatory tasks which include completion of a practice learning checklist for the preparedness for hosting a social work student. The designated practice assessor will review this work and provide feedback using the 3 and 3 model (three strengths and three developmental areas).

Assessment also consists of **academic coursework consisting of assignments and/or presentations and work-based** direct observations of the candidate in supervision with their social work student. The direct observations are carried out by the practice assessor with some being video recorded

Students/candidates are required to submit a Practice Teacher report detailing the progress of the BSc (hons) social work student they supervised whilst on placement. Reports must use the template in the Regional Practice Learning Handbook provided by the Northern Ireland Degree in Social Work Partnership.

The Practice Teacher report is assessed on a pass/fail basis by the practice assessor. Written feedback is provided by the practice assessor on the quality of the practice teaching report.

All elements of the assessment must be passed for the student to successfully complete the programme.

Entry Criteria

You must meet all of the following entry requirements for the programme:

- Be registered with NI Social Care Council as a qualified social worker
- Be enrolled with NISCC on a Specialist Award and have successfully achieved at least 2 PiP requirements of the Consolidation Award
- Possess a minimum of two years' post-AYE qualifying experience in social work practice (preferably with the last six months of experience having been spent in the current work setting)
- Be engaged for at least 12 hours per week in a paid or voluntary capacity in a designated social work post in which core social work values underpin practice and which provides supervised opportunity to practice social work in a professional role (including management, training, organisation development and regulatory roles as well as direct practice with clients, families, groups and communities)
- Have the support of your employer or supervisor of voluntary work to undertake study (verification of this may be required)
- Have the agreement of your employer or supervisor of voluntary work that the work of the organisation can be presented to meet the requirements of the modules
- Have a professional qualification in social work (e.g. C.S.S., C.Q.S.W., Diploma in Social Work, or BSc (Hons) Social Work)
- Satisfy Ulster University and the PiP Partnership (NI Social Care Council) of your ability to undertake study at postgraduate degree level, by holding one of the following:
 - a second-class honours degree (or higher)
 - an equivalent standard (normally 50%) in a graduate certificate or graduate diploma
 - a postgraduate certificate or postgraduate diploma or an approved alternative qualification

If you do not hold one of the above qualifications, you will need to undertake a 2000-word entry assignment. Please contact pqsocialwork@ulster.ac.uk for further information.

**Mental Health (Approved Social Worker) Programme
Mental Health and Mental Capacity Law Postgraduate
PG Cert/Dip/MSc
Queens' University Belfast (QUB)**

Module Title	Module Code	Professional Requirements	Academic Credits	Location & Contact Details
Postgraduate Diploma and Full Specialist Award when Modules 1-3 completed				<p>Queens' University, Belfast</p> <p>Employer Agency Contact: Mrs Angela Donnelly Programme Co-ordinator Social Services Learning and Development Department 1st Floor South Braid Valley Hospital Cushendall Road Ballymena BT43 6HL</p> <p>Tel: 073 8725 7090 Email: angela.donnelly@notherntrust.hscni.net</p> <p>Academic Contact: Professor Gavin Davidson Programme Director Email: ASW.Admin@belfasttrust.hscni.net</p> <p>Admin Contact ASW.Admin@belfasttrust.hscni.net</p>
Context and Concepts in Mental Health	SWK8083	Specialist Award Requirements 3,4 and 8	40 credits at M Level	
Law, Ethics and Applied Law in Mental Health	SWK8082	Specialist Award Requirements 1,5 and 6	40 credits at M Level	
Social Work Practice Development in Mental Health <i>NB: Modules 1 and 2 must be successfully completed before candidates can submit evidence for assessment in relation to Module 3.</i>	SWK8081	Specialist Award Requirements 2,7 and 9	40 credits at M Level	
Modules 1-4: Masters in Mental Health (ASW)				
4. Specialist Practice Dissertation Module – <i>see Leadership/Strategic Award listing below</i>	SWK 7001	Leadership/Strategic Award Requirements: 4,7 and 9	60 credits at M Level	

Target Group

The Programme is applicable to qualified social workers who wish to be considered for the role of *Approved Social Worker* by their employing Health and Social Care Trust.

Delivery

Delivery of the ASW Programme involves contributors from a wide range of backgrounds and disciplines. They include service users and carers; existing ASWs and other social care staff; a range of staff from multi-disciplinary backgrounds including psychiatry, psychology and nursing; court and other legal advisers; university staff and representatives from the Social Services Inspectorate and RQIA.

Focus

The course is delivered in three modules:

Module 1 facilitates ASWs in training to apply their practice; knowledge and critical understanding of the context and concepts of the field of mental health in order to make informed decisions regarding the care and treatment of people with a mental disorder. The second module is focussed on acquiring the knowledge and critical understanding of the legal and policy framework for practising ethically as an ASW in Northern Ireland. This module also facilitates a critical understanding of codes of practice, standards and policies guiding mental health practice and the ability to use these creatively to safeguard and promote the welfare of service users, their carers and others. The final module should enable Approved Social Workers in training to demonstrate that they have acquired the knowledge and skills necessary for competent practice and are able to critically analyse and reflect on their practice to ensure continuing professional development within a framework of best practice.

Assessment

Assessment is via assignment, presentation, examination and portfolio.

Entry Criteria

Social Workers seeking nomination to the ASW Training Programme must:

- Be registered with the Northern Ireland Social Care Council.
- Hold a Degree in Social Work, Diploma in Social Work, CSS, CQSW or predecessor equivalent. Social Workers trained outside of NISCC jurisdiction must produce a letter of comparability with these awards or a letter of verification issued by NISCC.
- Be nominated by a Health and Social Care Trust which will undertake to provide support and appropriate learning opportunities.
- Have at least two years post-qualifying experience or one year's experience in addition to the Assessed Year in Employment (AYE) by the date of the commencement of the Programme. Candidates employed prior to the introduction of the Degree in Social Work will normally be required to hold PQ1. Those who have completed the Degree in Social Work will be expected to have successfully completed a minimum of two Consolidation Requirements in the Professional in Practice (PiP) Framework.

- Have a Second Class Second Division Honours Degree or higher academic award or equivalent. Candidates not holding one of these qualifications are required to satisfy Queen's University Belfast, of their suitability for post-graduate study by completing a 2000-word assignment.
- Have recent experience of working with clients with a mental disorder. Where a social worker does not have prior experience of working with people with a mental disorder they should undertake appropriate preparation **before** and/or during Module 1 of the training programme. Any such preparation must be agreed in advance with the ASW Programme and recorded in the candidate's learning agreement.
- Be in a position to access the work required to develop and demonstrate competence in their work with people who have a mental disorder and their Carers. It will be the responsibility of the Employer to ensure that these opportunities for practice and necessary support are in place for the candidate during the time the Programme will run.
- Be able to commit to attend all taught days.
- Be allocated a Practice Assessor who meets the Programme's criteria for Practice Assessors.
- Following successful completion of the programme, seek continued opportunities to practise as an ASW to promote consolidation and professional development.
- Be enrolled on the PiP Specialist Award on the NISCC portal.

Palliative Care Social Work Post-Graduate Certificate/ Diploma Queen’s University Belfast (QUB)				
Module Title	Module Code	Professional Requirements	Academic Credits	Location & Contact Details
Year One: Post-graduate Certificate (Modules 1-3)				Queen’s University Belfast Contact: Dr Audrey Roulston Email: a.roulston@qub.ac.uk Tel: 07889519300 Postgraduate Office: Maria McQuillan Email: maria.mcquillan@qub.ac.uk
1. Principles of Palliative Care and illness	SWK8110	Specialist Award Requirement 3 and 7	20 credits at M Level	
2. Enhanced assessment, care planning and communication in palliative care	SWK8111	Specialist Award Requirement 5	20 credits at M Level	
3. Ethics and Law in Palliative Care	SWK8112	Specialist Award Requirement 1	20 credits at M Level	
Year Two: Post graduate Diploma and Full Specialist Award when Modules 1-6 are completed				
4. Care Planning and Intervention in Palliative Care	SWK8113	Specialist Award Requirement 6	20 credits at M Level	
5. Evidence Informed Practice & Leadership	SWK8114	Specialist Award Requirement 8 and 9	20 credits at M Level	
6. Identifying/appraising evidence to inform and develop research	SWK8115	Specialist Award Requirement 2 and 4	20 credits at M Level	
Year Three: Masters (Modules 1-7)				
7. Specialist Practice Dissertation Module – see the Leadership/Strategic Award Section				
Target Group This pathway is aimed at qualified social workers who are employed within specialist palliative care teams or settings and social workers providing support to adults via community or hospital-based services, such as integrated care / teams for older people, physical health and disability teams.				

learning disability services, GP Federation posts, stroke teams, dementia care, or other specialist areas who provide a service to people with a chronic or life-limiting illness. The course is aligned with the Professionals in Practice Specialist Award requirements, the European Association of Palliative Care competencies in palliative care social work and the Health Service Executive palliative care competence framework. It is therefore open to qualified social workers across the United Kingdom, Ireland, Europe, etc.

Delivery

The PG Diploma consists of six modules, which are taught part-time over a two-year period. All teaching is delivered online. There are four taught days per module. Each day consists of interactive online lectures and afternoon tutorials that offer critical reflection and skills-based exercises. Each taught day will end with a plenary session to reflect on the learning, discuss any emerging issues, including assignments and capture student feedback. The Programme Director, lecturers and academic tutors are all qualified social workers with specialist expertise in palliative care or have specialist expertise in their topic.

Focus

1. The overarching aims of the PG Diploma in Palliative Care Social Work are to:
2. Introduce specialist palliative care, strategic drivers that inform palliative care and promote continuous professional development of decision-making, communication skills, managing complex ethical dilemmas.
3. Encourage students to critically reflect on the application of theory to practice and consider a range of methods of intervention and the importance of person-centred practice, empowerment and advocacy.
4. Enhance the standards of service and care received by service users, carers and families who are in contact with statutory and voluntary sector services.
5. Improve knowledge, through staff development, professional competence and academic achievement.
6. Promote critical reflection, evidence-based practice and research skills.

Assessment

A variety of assessment methods include written assignments, role plays, presentations, reflective practice, critical appraisal of research and conducting a small project.

Entry Criteria

- Hold a Bachelor Honours Degree in Social Work or equivalent qualification acceptable to the University or equivalent qualification acceptable to the University, Post-Graduate Diploma in Social Work or equivalent qualification acceptable to the University, Certificate in Social Service (CSS), and Certificate of Qualification in Social Work (CQSW).

- Have at least three years post qualifying social work experience or two year's experience in addition to the Assessed Year in Employment (NI applicants) by the date of commencement of the programme
- Application for Recognition of Prior Learning is not applicable to this programme.
- Northern Ireland students should also be enrolled on the PiP Specialist Award on the NISCC portal.

In addition, prospective applicants must be in a social work role that involves working with people who have chronic health issues or a life-limiting condition, and have support from their line manager to attend the course.

Perinatal, Child, Adolescent and Family work: A Psychoanalytic Observational Approach M7N
PG Cert/PG Dip
Tavistock and Portman NHS Foundation Trust / The University of Essex

Module Title	Module Code	Professional Requirements	Academic Credits	Location & Contact Details
Infant Observation - Year 1	PA 7071	Specialist Award Requirement 1	120 credits at PG Dip level (Approved with University of Essex)	Northern Ireland Council for Voluntary Action (NICVA) 61 Duncairn Gardens, Belfast BT15 2GB Course Lead (Belfast): Gertie Doonan Email: GDoonan@Tavi-Port.nhs.uk Course Lead (Tavistock): Matthew Chuard Email: MChuard@Tavi-Port.ac.uk Course Administrator (Belfast): Brian Cairns Email: briancairns1961@hotmail.co.uk Course Administrator: Sara Riley Contact Tel: 020 8938 2428 SRiley@tavi-port.nhs.uk
Work Discussion - Year 1	PA 7072	Specialist Award Requirement 7		
Theoretical Perspectives - Year 1	PA 7073	Specialist Award Requirement 4,5 and 6		
Psychoanalytic Observation	PA 7074	Specialist Award Requirement 1,2 and 8		
Work Discussion - Year 2	PA 7075	Specialist Award Requirement 6 and 9		
Young Child Observation - Year 2	PA 7076	Specialist Award Requirement 3		
Target Group This course is offered to experienced professionals working with children, young people and their carers who are interested in applying detailed observation and a psychoanalytic framework in their practice. This is a multidisciplinary course targeted at social workers, nurses, health visitors, child psychiatrists and other allied health professionals. It provides for the development of in-depth knowledge and skills in assessing and working with children in need, those who are at risk and children who are subject to a care order. In particular, the course content is especially helpful to social workers with its intense focus on attachment problems and related difficulties between caregivers and their children.				

Delivery

This programme is delivered collaboratively by Child and Adolescent Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy, Northern Ireland (CCAPNI), the Tavistock and Portman NHS Trust, the University of Essex and a range of agency partners from social work, psychiatry, psychology, teaching, psychoanalysis and paediatrics.

Focus

The focus of the programme is on infant and young child observation; psychoanalytic theory and child development research.

In module 1 there is an emphasis on developing a clearer understanding of ordinary early development, communication and relationships through the experience of observing and being able to systematically apply key psychoanalytic ideas and approaches and child development research concepts in illuminating the student's own and others' observations.

Module 2 involves a study of psychoanalytic theory and development of a frame of reference for formulating hypotheses about the meaning of observations. This module builds on Module 1.

Assessment

Assessment methods include a portfolio comprising 2 infant observation descriptions and a reflective essay; discussion papers; essays; observation material.

Entry Criteria

Applicants must:

- Have at least one year of prior experience (paid or voluntary) directly working with children and/or adolescents and/or families.
- Have an interest in, and aptitude for, learning about emotional development, observation and psychoanalytic thinking; be currently undertaking direct work with children, young people, parents or families, for a minimum one to two days per week.
- Have a first degree, (Degree in Social Work for social work applicants) or the equivalent, or be able to demonstrate that you can meet the academic demands of the programme.
- Provide two references, one from an employer who can give an account of your work with children.
- Be registered on Part 1 of the NISCC register (social work applicants).

Be enrolled on the PiP Specialist Award on the NISCC portal.

MSc in Professional Development: The Probation Professional Practice Specialist Pathway Programme
PG Dip Professional Development in Social Work
Probation Board for Northern Ireland / Ulster University (UU)

Module Title	Module Code	Professional Requirements	Academic Credits	Location & Contact Details
Postgraduate Certificate: Two Modules Postgraduate Diploma and Full Specialist Award when 3 Modules completed				Probation Board for NI (PBNI) / University of Ulster Employer Agency Contact: Ms Emma Richmond Probation Board for NI Learning and Development 2 nd Floor 3 Wellington Court BALLYMENA BT43 6EQ Email: Emma.Richmond@probation-ni.gov.uk Tel: 028 25662364 Academic Contact: Sean McEntee Programme Co-ordinator Ulster University Email: s.mcentee@ulster.ac.uk
Specialist Probation Practice	SWK731	Specialist Award Requirements 2,4 and 5	30 credits at M Level	
Collaborative Social Work Practice	SWK732	Specialist Award Requirements 3,6 and 9	30 credits at M Level	
Managing & Enabling Change	SWK733	Specialist Award Requirements 1,7 and 8	30 credits at M Level	
Target Group This programme is designed for social workers working in probation/criminal justice practice at a specialist level.				
Delivery				

This pathway is delivered by Ulster University in collaboration with PBNi agency partners. All modules are delivered via blended learning and use the following **teaching and learning methods**:

- Lectures will facilitate the delivery of professional and academic knowledge, including research, and encourage critical debate.
- Face-to-face sessions will be held by your agency representative - the initial session will help to prepare you for the teaching; the subsequent session will help to prepare you for your assignment.
- Group supervision will facilitate peer learning and education through the exchange of experiences, information and ideas relating to professional practice issues.
- Individual supervision will provide individual support for you regarding personal and professional development, coherence of learning and application of learning to particular practice contexts.
- Practical exercises will assist in applying theory to professional practice.
- You will be directed to read a range of resource materials in order to develop up-to-date knowledge and to stimulate critical thinking and analysis.
- You will be expected to take responsibility for your own learning within the professional development structures of NI Social Care Council, teaching and support structures of the programme, and your line management and professional supervisory arrangements.

Focus

The programme aims to assist candidates to develop a substantially enhanced level of competence, sound professional judgement, professional responsibility and initiative in the complex and unpredictable setting of probation and criminal justice.

Assessment

Assessment methods include preparatory statements turning into a direct observations of practice, critical evaluation of practice, individual presentation, practical report of applied case study, group presentation and written assignments.

Entry Criteria

This course is offered to practising social workers who meet the entry requirements.

To undertake the PgDip/MSc Professional Development in Social Work, applicants must meet all of the following criteria:

- Be registered with NI Social Care Council as a qualified social worker.
- Be enrolled with NI Social Care Council on the Professional in Practice (PIP) post qualifying framework at Specialist Award level.
- Be engaged for a minimum of 12 hours per week (paid or voluntary) in a post where core social work values underpin practice and which provides supervised opportunity to practice social work in a professional role with direct practice with service users, families, groups and communities including (management, training, organisational development roles).
- Have the support of employer or voluntary work supervisor to undertake programme of study.
- Successful completion of an Assessed Year in Employment (AYE) or equivalent if qualified or employed outside Northern Ireland.

- Satisfy Ulster University and NI Social Care Council of their ability to undertake study at postgraduate degree level, by holding one of the following:
 - an honours or non-honours degree
 - an equivalent standard (normally 50%) in a graduate certificate or graduate diploma
 - a postgraduate certificate or postgraduate diploma or an approved alternative qualification

Applicants who do not meet the above criteria are required to demonstrate, through Accredited Prior Experiential Learning, their ability to undertake study at postgraduate degree level. Applicants are required to successfully complete a 200-word assignment or 20 minutes presentation in which they provide a critical appraisal of their role as a social worker.

MSc in Professional Development: Research Methods Programme Ulster University (UU)

Module Title	Module Code	Professional Requirements	Academic Credits	Location & Contact Details
Evidence Informed Professional and Organisation (EIPO)	SWK 751	Specialist Award Requirements 1,2,3,4,6 and 7. OR <i>Leadership Requirements 3, 4 and 5</i> <i>*Please see page 47</i>	120 credits at M level	University of Ulster Academic Contacts: Dr Campbell Killick Programme Co-ordinator Email: c.killick@ulster.ac.uk Tel: 07717515757 Dr Paula McFadden Programme Co-ordinator Email: p.mcfadden@ulster.ac.uk Tel: 02871675028
Research and Evaluation Methods in Social Work (REM)	SWK 752 / SWK 754	Specialist Award Requirements 3,4,5,6,8 and 9. OR <i>Leadership Requirements 6, 8 and 9</i> <i>*Please see page 47</i>		
For the Dissemination of Social Work Research Module - see Leadership/Strategic Award section NB: Completing the above 2 modules achieves: A full Specialist Award PLUS 3 Requirements of the Leadership Award (by transferring the three				

'surplus' Specialist Requirements 3, 4 and 6)				
<p><u>Target Group</u> Professional social work practitioners, managers and trainers who wish to develop skills in design, data collection, analysis and dissemination that will contribute to improving service quality and professional knowledge through research, professional audit and service evaluation.</p> <p><u>Delivery</u> The programme is provided by a partnership involving Ulster University in collaboration with agency partners who include the 5 HSC Trusts; the HSC Board; the NI Guardian Ad Litem Agency; the Probation Board for NI and the major Voluntary sector organisations.</p> <p><u>Focus</u> The programme consists of two 1-year modules. Candidates attend taught blocks at the University to develop knowledge and skills in a range of research methods of relevance to social work research, audit and evaluation. All candidates are experienced social workers in employment, who undertake a project in their own work setting, with the support of their university tutor, employer and practice assessor and disseminate their findings in their own organisation.</p> <p>Module 1 provides a foundation in the methods of systematically identifying, appraising and synthesising research relevant to a social work topic of interest to the candidate and employer.</p> <p>Module 2 provides a structured, supportive environment to design and carry out an original research or service evaluation project building on the research review carried out for module 1 and of relevance to service development in the employer's context.</p> <p><u>Assessment</u> There are three elements to assessment: The project proposal; project report; oral presentation and dissemination of findings. All three elements must be successfully achieved in order to pass the programme. The programme includes provision for a service user or carer to contribute to the assessment of the oral presentation.</p> <p><u>Entry Criteria</u> As a general principle, nominations to the programme will be the responsibility of the employing agencies. Applicants must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be registered with NISCC on the social work part of the Register. • Be professionally qualified in social work • Be enrolled on the NISCC portal for either the Specialist Award or the Leadership & Strategic Award. 				

- Be in a post (whether practice, management or education and training) where they can demonstrate social work skills and carry out a research, audit or service evaluation project suitable to this programme.
- Have undertaken preliminary work to identify possible projects relevant to their current practice and have an understanding of the relevant area of knowledge.
- Have the support of their line management.
- Have at least two years full-time equivalent experience after the Assessed Year in Employment.

MSc in Professional Development: Social Work and Community Development Approaches Ulster University (UU)

Module Title	Module Code	Professional Requirements	Academic Credits	Location & Contact Details
Postgraduate Diploma and Specialist Award when Modules 1&2 are completed Masters in Professional Development when Modules 1&2 are completed <u>PLUS</u> 90 credits from previous MSc in Professional Development Programmes				Agency based in collaboration with UU Agency Contact: Mr Fergal O’Brien Programme Co-ordinator, SHSCT Email: fergal.obrien@southerntrust.hscni.net Tel: 02837564252 Academic Contact: Dr Rosemary Moreland Email: r.moreland@ulster.ac.uk Tel: 02895365822 Administrator Contact Clare van der Veen Clare.vanderveen@southerntrust.hscni.net
Understanding Community Development Approaches in Social Work and social professions.	SWK758	Specialist Award Requirements 1,2 and 6	30 credits at M Level	
Designing and implementing a Participatory Action Research project in social work practice: a community development approach.	SWK763	Specialist Award Requirements 3,4, 5,7, 8 and 9	60 credits at M Level	

Target Group
Social workers who wish to apply community development approaches in their practice.

Delivery
Modules will be delivered using a hybrid approach incorporating face-to-face and virtual sessions.

Focus
The programme aims to:

- Facilitate an understanding of the professional domains within which the student is located and explore ways in which social work and community development practices can be integrated.
- Enable students to develop critical understandings of power, inequality, social injustice, diversity and inclusion in the context of working with marginalised and disadvantaged individuals and communities.
- Develop knowledge and skills in applying community development approaches, methods, and tools in a context of risk, uncertainty, conflict and contradiction.
- Develop an appreciation of research strategies relevant to social work and use current, relevant research to design and implement innovative and creative solution-focused research projects, in response to challenging local contexts.
- Apply learning in theories and models of leadership, partnership-working, co-design and co-production, to drive forward positive change using community development methods within their own practice.

Assessment

Assessment methods include assignments; oral presentation observed by practice assessor; discussion and reflective evaluation.

Entry Criteria

This course is offered to practising social workers who meet the entry criteria.

To undertake the PgDip/MSc Professional Development in Social Work, applicants must meet all of the following criteria:

- Be registered with NISCC as a qualified social worker.
- Be enrolled with NISCC on the Professional in Practice (PIP) post qualifying framework on a Specialist Award.
- Be engaged for a minimum of 12 hours per week (paid or voluntary) in a post where core social work values underpin practice and which provides supervised opportunity to practice social work in a professional role with direct practice with service users, families, groups and communities including (management, training, organisational development) roles.
- Have the support of employer or voluntary work supervisor to undertake programme of study.
- Successful completion of an Assessed Year in Employment (AYE) or equivalent if qualified or employed outside Northern Ireland.
- Satisfy Ulster University and NI Social Care Council of their ability to undertake study at postgraduate degree level, by holding one of the following:
 1. an honours or non-honours degree
 2. an equivalent standard (normally 50%) in a graduate certificate or graduate diploma
 3. a postgraduate certificate or postgraduate diploma or an approved alternative qualification

Applicants who do not meet the above criteria are required to demonstrate, through Accredited Prior Experiential Learning, their ability to undertake study at postgraduate degree level. Applicants are required to successfully complete a 2000-word assignment.

Advanced Social Work with Children, Young People and Families Programme
Postgraduate Diploma
Queen's University, Belfast (QUB)

Module Title	Module Code	Professional Requirements	Academic Credits	Location & Contact Details
Postgraduate Diploma and Full Specialist Award when Modules 4-6 are undertaken				Queen’s University, Belfast +44 (0) 28 9097 5941/3323/5117
Working with Complexity – Evidence based risk assessment and decision-making.	SWK8119	Specialist Award Requirements 1, 3 and 8	20 credits at M Level	Academic Contact: Professor Lisa Bunting Programme Director QUB Tel: +44 028 90971482 Email: l.bunting@qub.ac.uk
Working with complexity and risk – advanced Systemic Practice skills for child and family social work	SWK8120	Specialist Award Requirements 2, 5 and 6	20 credits at M Level	
Planning, Intervention and Service Development	SWK8121	Specialist Award Requirements 4, 7 and 9	20 credits at M Level	
				Postgraduate Office: Maria McQuillan Email: maria.mcquillan@qub.ac.uk
Target Group The programme is open to those who have completed their AYE and want to develop advanced knowledge and skills to enhance their practice within their current work setting, while also strengthening professional identity, self-awareness and reflective capacity.				
Delivery The programme is delivered through a mixture of lectures, small group teaching, skills workshops and practice-related assessment methods.				
Focus The programme aims to develop advanced knowledge and skills in child and family social work to enhance practice across statutory and voluntary settings, while also strengthening professional identity, self-awareness and reflective capacity. Through a mixture of lectures, small group teaching, skills workshops				

and practice-related assessment methods, the programme emphasises the translation of learning into effective practice through a clear focus on critical thinking and skills development linked to the student's practice context, thereby promoting innovation, evaluation and accountability in practice.

Assessment

Assessment is written assignment and oral presentation, including reflective practice learning portfolio and annotated case-based presentation.

Entry Criteria

All applicants must:

- Possess a social work qualification recognised by the Northern Ireland Social Care Council.
- Be registered with the Council and have completed the Assessed Year in Employment or have at least one year's post-qualifying experience if graduated prior to the AYE implementation.
- Be enrolled on the relevant PiP Award via the Social Care Council portal.
- All applicants must be currently engaged for at least 12 hours per week in a children's social care setting in a capacity in which core social work values underpin their practice with service users or carers.

Applicants should normally hold a second-class honours degree or higher. Where this academic requirement is not met, they must satisfy the programme lead that their experience and qualifications equip them to undertake postgraduate study through a written assignment.

**Northern Ireland Social Care Council
Professional in Practice Approved Programmes**

LEADERSHIP AND STRATEGIC AWARD IN SOCIAL WORK

Diploma in Health and Social Care Leadership and Management Programme HSC Leadership Centre Ulster University (UU)/ Western Health and Social Care Trust at Magee Campus alternate years				
Module Title	Module Code	Professional Requirements	Academic Credits	Location & Contact Details
Year 1 Modules: 1. Leading Organisations 2. Leading Your Team 3. Leading for Service Improvement	BMG 581 BMG 583 BMG 763	Leadership/Strategic Award Requirements: 1, 4, and 7	120 credits at M Level	HSC Leadership Centre / WHSCT Siobhan Rice, HSC Leadership Centre Siobhan.Rice@leadership.hscni.net Colin Ward, Western Trust Colin.Ward@westerntrust.hscni.net Admin - Carla.brandan@leadership.hscni.net
Year 2 Modules: 1. Leading with Influence 2. Leading with accountability 3. Leading for the Future	BMG 765 BMG 767 BMG 766	Leadership/Strategic Award Requirements: 5,6 and 8		
Target Group This programme is applicable to Health and Social Care managers from all professions and is suitable for experienced middle and senior managers wishing to develop or consolidate their managerial and leadership skills.				

Delivery

The course is delivered by the Health and Social Care Leadership Centre and accredited by Ulster University.

Focus

The focus of the programme is to enable candidates to undertake an advanced study of organisations, their management and the external context in which they operate. Content is aimed at developing and enhancing skills at a professional level, enabling candidates to work with self-direction and originality. The course is designed to help candidates apply knowledge and understanding of Health and Social Care leadership and management to complex issues, in line with the new Healthcare Leadership Model.

Assessment

Assessment methods on the course include assignments, examination, tutorial questions, group projects with report, oral presentations, directed discussions, independent and guided research work.

Entry Criteria

Social Work Applicants:

- Must hold the Degree in social work or equivalent.
- Must have at least 3 years appropriate management experience at Band 6 or above.
- Must be registered with NISCC as a social worker.
- Must be able to provide evidence of competence in written and spoken English (GCSE grade C or Equivalent).
- Must be enrolled on the PiP Leadership & Strategic Award on the NISCC portal.

Research Methods Programme
PG Dip Professional Development in Social Work
University of Ulster (UU)

Module Title	Module Code	Professional Requirements	Academic Credits	Location & Contact Details
Evidence Informed Professional and Organisation (EIPO)	SWK751	Leadership and Strategic Award Requirements 3, 4 and 5	120 credits at M level	University of Ulster Academic Contacts: Dr Campbell Killick Programme Co-ordinator Email: c.killick@ulster.ac.uk Tel: 07717515757 Dr Paula McFadden Programme Co-ordinator Email: p.mcfadden@ulster.ac.uk Tel: 02871675028
Research and Evaluation Methods in Social Work (REM)	SWK752 / SWK754	Leadership and Strategic Award Requirements 6, 8 and 9		
Dissemination of Social Work Research	SWK761 / SWK762	Leadership and Strategic Award Requirements 1,2 and 7		

Target Group

Professional social work practitioners, managers and trainers who wish to develop skills in design, data collection, analysis and dissemination that will contribute to improving service quality and professional knowledge through research, professional audit and service evaluation.

Delivery

The programme is provided by a partnership involving Ulster University in collaboration with agency partners who include the 5 HSC Trusts; the HSC Board; the NI Guardian Ad Litem Agency; the Probation Board NI and the major Voluntary sector organisations.

Focus

The programme consists of two 1-year modules. Candidates attend taught blocks at the University to develop knowledge and skills in a range of research methods of relevance to social work research, audit and evaluation. All candidates are experienced social workers in employment, who undertake a project in their own work setting, with the support of their University tutor, Employer and Practice Assessor and disseminate their findings in their own Organisation.

Module 1 provides a foundation in the methods of systematically identifying, appraising and synthesising research relevant to a social work topic of interest to the candidate and employer.

Module 2 provides a structured, supportive environment to design and carry out an original research or service evaluation project building on the research review carried out for Module 1 and of relevance to service development in the employer's context.

Assessment

There are three elements to assessment: The project proposal; project report; oral presentation and dissemination of findings. All three elements must be successfully achieved in order to pass the Programme. The programme includes provision for a service user or carer to contribute to the assessment of the oral presentation.

Entry Criteria

As a general principle, nominations to the Programme will be the responsibility of the employing agencies. Applicants must:

- Be professionally qualified in social work and registered with NISCC.
- Be enrolled on the NISCC portal for either the Specialist Award or the Leadership & Strategic Award.
- Be in a post (whether practice, management or education and training) where they can demonstrate social work skills and carry out a research, audit or service evaluation project suitable to this Programme.
- Have undertaken preliminary work to identify possible projects relevant to their current practice and have an understanding of the relevant area of knowledge.
- Have the support of their line management.
- Have at least two years full-time equivalent experience after the Assessed Year in Employment.

Systemic Psychotherapy MSc in Systemic Psychotherapy Queen's University Belfast (QUB)

Module Title	Module Code	Professional Requirements	Academic Credits	Location & Contact Details
Year 3 and 4: Masters and Full Leadership and Strategic Award				Queens University Belfast
Family Therapy and Systemic Thinking 1 - Theoretical Perspectives	SWK8069	Leadership/Strategic Award Requirement 2	20 credits a M Level	Contacts: Dr Stephen Coulter s.coulter@qub.ac.uk Dr Suzanne Mooney s.mooney@qub.ac.uk Postgraduate Office: Maria McQuillan Email: maria.mcquillan@qub.ac.uk
Family Therapy Skills and Techniques 1 - Practice Applications	SWK8071	Leadership/Strategic Award Requirements 6 and 8	40 credits a M Level	
Family Therapy and Systemic Thinking 2 - Theoretical Perspectives	SWK8072	Leadership/Strategic Award Requirement 1	20 credits a M Level	
Family Therapy Skills and Techniques 2 - Practice Applications	SWK8073	Leadership/Strategic Award Requirements 3 and 5	40 credits a M Level	
Dissertation – Systemic Psychotherapy – Specialist Practice Master's	SWK7001	Leadership/Strategic Award Requirements 4, 7 and 9	60 credits a M Level	
For Years 1 and 2 See Specialist Award Section above				
Target Group This course is suitable for professionally qualified staff (including Social Workers, Psychologists, Nurses, Psychiatrists, Teachers, Arts Therapists, Occupational Therapists, Counsellors and Speech and Language Therapists) who have recently completed Foundation and Intermediate level Systemic training and wish to become qualified Family and Systemic Psychotherapists.				
Delivery				

The course runs for two calendar years and has 15 taught days at QUB each year (30 in total) usually one per fortnight and live supervised clinics which run one day per week from October to May each year.

The taught days are delivered via direct face-to-face teaching, group exercises, group discussions, practical exercises, opportunities for simulated practice.

The live supervised clinic usually take the format of a one day per week training clinic in a suitable setting (e.g. CAMHS, Family Trauma Centre, Children's Services) where you work with a small group of other students and the supervisor.

Students must also be able to evidence 200 hours of systemic practice in their own work setting and access systemic supervision for these practice hours.

Focus

The overarching aim of the course is to enable professionals, from a range of primary disciplines working in mental health, social care and related fields, to become qualified as 'Family and Systemic Psychotherapists'. It also assists practitioners in different settings and roles to use systemic skills to maximise engagement with individual service users (both adults and children) or relationship groups in their everyday work. Skills developed on these programmes align with NI strategic developments and priorities including the Mental Health Strategy; 'Signs of Safety'; 'Think Family'; NI Framework for Integrated Therapeutic Care for care experienced children; Trauma Informed Practice. The programme builds on students' prior systemic learning to develop an in depth understanding of the theories informing family therapy and systemic practice, and to be able to translate these theories into effective practice to enrich the lives of individuals, couples and families with whom they work. In doing this, participants will achieve the professional standards required by the Association for Family Therapy (AFT) and the United Kingdom Council for Psychotherapy (UKCP) at the level of qualification for independent psychotherapy practice.

Assessment:

Assessment methods include written assignments, oral presentations and direct observations by clinic supervisor.

Entry Criteria

Candidates must normally:

- Hold a prior relevant professional training in a mental health or social care related discipline.
- Have a 2.2 Honours degree or above and be Registered with the NISCC.
- Have completed 'Intermediate level' Systemic Training.
- Be able to evidence 200 hours of systemic practice in their own work setting.
- Be enrolled on a Leadership/Strategic Award with the NISCC.

Specialist Practice Dissertation Module Masters Queen's University, Belfast (QUB)				
Module Title	Module Code	Professional Requirements	Academic Credits	Location & Contact Details
Specialist Practice Dissertation Module	SWK7001	No. of Modules: 6 Leadership/Strategic Award Requirements: 4,7 and 9	120 credits at M Level	Queen's University, Belfast Academic Contact: Professor Lisa Bunting Programme Director QUB Tel: +44 028 90971482 Email: l.bunting@qub.ac.uk Postgraduate Office: Maria McQuillan Email: maria.mcquillan@qub.ac.uk
<i>See relevant QUB programmes</i>				