The Paediatric Group of the BDA in Partnership with Plymouth University

Paediatric Dietetics
A modular course for dietitians 2017-18
&
MSc Advanced Professional Practice in Paediatric Dietetics

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Paediatric Dietetics Pathway Guide May 2017
Studying for a Masters degree
- Are you ready to study at Masters level?
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Contact Details

Appendix 1 Module Content of Plymouth University Modules
Introduction

The BDA Modular Course has been designed for qualified dietitians to allow them to build on their existing knowledge of paediatric nutrition and dietetics and to reflect on the current healthcare and educational needs of dietitians working in the UK and beyond. The course provides a progressive path through paediatric training with the modular format allowing flexibility for dietitians who have differing levels of experience, whether in the acute or the community setting. For example a paediatric community dietitian may choose to attend modules 1 and 2 whereas a dietitian with an aspiration to work at a tertiary level may wish to attend all 5 modules. Experienced paediatric dietitians may take modules 3, 4 and 5 as a means of updating and enhancing their scientific knowledge base. Dietitians will be attending a course that is endorsed by the British Dietetic Association and that is recognised and valued by healthcare institutions.

The modules are accredited at Masters level with Plymouth University and can be taken as stand-alone short courses, or dietitians can register for the MSc in Advanced Professional Practice in Paediatric Dietetics, hosted by Plymouth University. This course focuses on the development of advanced skills in reasoning, critical appraisal, problem solving and leadership to enable you to progress and make meaningful changes to your practice. It is designed to help you advance your career in clinical practice, as a manager or an academic and helps lay the foundations for doctoral study should you wish. The course is flexible and offered for 1 year on a full time or 3-5 years on a part time basis. The blended learning approach – using small blocks of attended teaching with distance learning – enables busy professionals to fit their studies around work commitments and to attend from a distance.

Who is it for?
The course is designed for paediatric dietetic professionals who wish to develop key knowledge and skills and apply them to their individual area of practice. The flexible nature of the programme ensures that you can study at your pace around your work and life commitments.

Why choose us?
This BDA Paediatric Dietetics course is well established and has helped many dietetic professionals move forward with their careers. Both BDA Paediatric Tutors and the School of Health Professions have exceptional international and national research reputations. The School offers an inter-professional environment in which to study, reflecting the professions who study with us. Plymouth University is one of the largest Universities in the UK. As part of the University’s Faculty of Health and Human Sciences, the School of Health Professions benefits from the University’s size whilst being small enough to change rapidly and react to the needs of healthcare professionals.
BDA Modular Course

Structure and accreditation
The BDA course runs as five ‘stand-alone’ 4 day modules. Students may take a single module or they may progress through all five modules depending on their learning needs. They are all of a practical nature and learning is achieved through lectures, workshops, case study presentations, problem solving and informal discussion groups. The course is endorsed by the BDA for 80 learning hours per module for continuous professional development (CPD). Learning hours will only be awarded to students who complete the pre-course work (reading and self-assessment) and attend the full 4 day taught component. At Masters level each module is worth 20 credits. Masters students do the same pre-course work (reading and self-assessment) and 4 day taught component as BDA students and then must attain a satisfactory level in a rigorous post-course assessment (4000 word Reflective Essay) within the allocated time frame. Further details are provided once students are allocated a place.

Admission requirements and application
UK students must be Registered Dietitians with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) to obtain the award of MSc APP in Paediatric Dietetics. Other EU applicants will be required to be Registered Dietitians in their own country. Modules will be advertised in ‘Dietetics Today’ and are shown on both the BDA Paediatric Specialist Group website and on the Plymouth University Post-Graduate website. Allocation of places for the modules will be on a ‘first come, first served’ basis. Payment of fees must be made by the advertised date.

Unfortunately we are not able to accept applications from non-EU overseas students for this programme as it does not comply with the current Tier 4 visa requirements.

Aims and learning outcomes of the 5 BDA modules

Aims:
- To provide a planned programme which complements the skills of the Registered Dietitian, providing additional expertise necessary for advanced, evidence-based practice in the field of paediatric dietetics
- To enable students to apply theoretical knowledge and practical skills to an increasingly complex caseload in order to provide the most appropriate advice for infants (including preterm infants), children and adolescents
- To develop students’ ability to analyse, interpret and synthesise new and emerging scientific knowledge in the field of paediatric nutrition and dietetics
- To give students confidence in handling a variety of paediatric cases of increasing complexity as they progress through the five modules
- To encourage effective communication of paediatric dietetics to patients, healthcare professionals and other groups
- To support students to critically analyse and interpret their own work in order to advance their practice
Learning outcomes:
On successful completion of the 5 modules, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate an extended knowledge of nutritional principles, feeding, nutrient requirements and nutritional assessment in the field of paediatric dietetics
- Demonstrate an appreciation of how psychosocial, financial and cultural factors affect families and children, and the importance of the multidisciplinary team in their management
- Apply and synthesise theoretical knowledge in order to recommend the most appropriate and current dietary regimens for normal infants, children and adolescents, and those with particular needs, such as over- and undernutrition and clinical conditions requiring a dietetic input
- Communicate their nutritional knowledge to groups or individuals and evaluate outcomes
- Critically evaluate new scientific and other evidence which may impact on dietetic practice

Module content
ADV741: Nutrition and Dietetics in Infancy and Childhood
(Module 1) Growth and nutritional requirements
Infant feeding – breast, formula, weaning
Faltering growth; anaemia; rickets; colic; constipation; obesity
Government policies relevant to child and adolescent nutrition

ADV742: Nutrition and Dietetics in Common Paediatric Disorders
(Module 2) Nutritional support and enteral feeding
Special needs, feeding difficulties and eating disorders
Gastroenterology and specialised formulas
Food allergy and intolerance; cystic fibrosis; diabetes mellitus; preterm infants; oncology

ADV743: Clinical Dietetics for Infants and Children
(Module 3) Neonatal surgery; gastroenterology; parenteral nutrition
Trauma; thermal injury; critical care; renal disease; liver disease; ketogenic diets; cardiology

ADV720: Dietetic Management of Inherited Metabolic Disorders
(Module 4) Protein metabolism e.g. PKU, MSUD, homocystinuria
Disorders of carbohydrate metabolism e.g. galactosaemia, glycogen storage diseases
Fatty acid oxidation disorders and disorders of ketogenesis

ADV744: Neonatal Nutrition
(Module 5) Management of complex neonatal nutritional problems e.g. necrotising enterocolitis and gastrointestinal surgery
Catch-up growth and the effect of early nutrition on later health
Post discharge nutrition for preterm infants; weaning preterm infants; practical issues relating to breastfeeding and human milk banking
**Cost per BDA module (M level and CPD option)**
£820 inclusive of tuition fees, refreshments and lunch over the 4 days.

The fee for each module is the same, whether you choose to take the module as a CPD option (BDA certificate) or enrol with Plymouth University for Masters level credit.

**Dates of BDA Modules**

**2017**

(ADV743) Module 3 = October 3rd – 6th (London)
(ADV720) Module 4 = November 6th – 9th (Birmingham)
(ADV744) Module 5 = November 21st – 24th (Birmingham)

**2018**

(ADV742) Module 2 = January 30th – 2nd February (London)
(ADV742) Module 2 = May 8th – 11th (Glasgow)
(ADV741) Module 1 = June 26th – 29th (London)
(ADV743) Module 3 = October 2nd – 5th (Birmingham)
(ADV720) Module 4 = November 6th – 9th (London)
(ADV744) Module 5 = November 20th – 23rd (Birmingham)

**BDA Contact details**

Modules will be advertised in ‘Dietetics Today’ 6 months before they run.
For further details regarding the application process contact the BDA Course Administrator: Hayley Clarke H.Clarke@bda.uk.com
Application forms are available from: www.bda.uk.com/events

For further information regarding BDA module content (M level or CPD option) contact: Vanessa Shaw, Education Officer, Paediatric Specialist Group: vanessa.shaw@gosh.nhs.uk
MSC Advanced Professional Practice in Paediatric Dietetics

3 Core modules 3 pathway modules and 1 optional modules

The modules link together to form a PgCert, PgDip and MSc. Each stage of the degree requires 60 credits to progress. There are three points at which you can leave the degree – after 60 credits, 120 credits and 180 credits.
Structure of the Masters pathway

‘step-off’ at stage 1, 2 or 3 with:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage</th>
<th>Total M Credit needed</th>
<th>Award</th>
<th>BDA pathway specific (M) modules</th>
<th>Plymouth core modules</th>
<th>Plymouth ‘optional’ module</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>60 M credit</td>
<td>Postgraduate Certificate (60 credits total)</td>
<td>2 x 20 credit (1st and 2nd BDA module choice)</td>
<td>1 x 20 credit ADV702</td>
<td>nil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>120 M credit</td>
<td>Postgraduate Diploma (60 credits above, plus 60 credits)</td>
<td>1 x 20 credit (3rd BDA module choice)</td>
<td>1 x 20 credit ADV715</td>
<td>1 x 20 credit e.g. ADV749</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>180 M credit</td>
<td>MSc degree (120 credits above, plus 60 credits)</td>
<td>1 x 60 credit ADV716</td>
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BDA Masters Modules (pathway specific/20 M credit each)
Any choice of the BDA clinical modules can be studied, in any order, though students with limited experience of Paediatric Dietetics are advised to do ADV741 and/or ADV742 first:

- ADV741 Nutrition and Dietetics in Infancy and Childhood
- ADV742 Nutrition and Dietetics in Common Paediatric Disorders
- ADV743 Clinical Dietetics for Infants and Children
- ADV720 Dietetic Management of Inherited Metabolic Disorders
- ADV744 Neonatal Nutrition

Upgrading BDA Credits to M level Credits (the APEL process)
Paediatric dietitians who previously attended BDA Paediatric Specialist Group validated courses can apply to convert their award to Masters learning credits through the university APEL process. There is no retrospective time limit. However, this will necessitate:

- submission of a completed APEL form
- a certificate of BDA award
- CV and evidence of relevant work in the field
- Successful achievement of the same Masters level summative assessment as those completing the equivalent taught module. A named personal tutor will be assigned for guidance and you will agree a realistic hand-in deadline. This is usually set as the same hand-in date as the next taught version of the module.

A maximum of 2 BDA modules can be completed by APEL, one for the Pg Certificate and another for the Pg Diploma/Masters. The approximate cost of the APEL option is £375 per module. This is subject to annual update. For further information contact Jane Campbell-Baigrie (Senior Administrator), e-mail: Jane.Campbell-Baigrie@plymouth.ac.uk
Assessment of BDA Masters modules
All modules will be assessed using standard M level criteria

Formative Assessment (not marked)
- Self-assessment questions
- A portfolio of learning experience, including competencies acquired during this module, will be prepared by the student

Summative Assessment (marked)
- Reflective Essay (100%)

The student will submit a 4000 word Reflective Essay on a key topic of the module, informed by critical appraisal of the current evidence base and best practice. The deadline date for submission of the Masters assessment is set 6 weeks after the last taught day of each module. Students must pass the summative assessment with a pass mark of 50%.

Example of module pathway in the awards of PgCert, PgDip and MSc Advanced Professional Practice in Paediatric Dietetics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Module Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PgCert</td>
<td>ADV741 Nutrition and Dietetics in Infancy and Childhood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ADV742 Nutrition &amp; Dietetics in Common Paediatric Disorders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ADV702 Applying Evidence to Practice</td>
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<tr>
<td>PgDip</td>
<td>ADV743 Clinical Dietetics for Infants and Children</td>
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<td></td>
<td>ADV749 Dietetic Practice: Supported Study</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ADV715 Project Design for Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>MSc</td>
<td>ADV716 Research Dissertation</td>
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Plymouth Modules (see Appendix 1 for module content)

**Plymouth Core Modules**
- ADV702 Applying Evidence to Practice

**Plymouth ‘Optional’ Module**
- ADV749 Dietetic Practice: Supported Study (via distance learning)
- ADV759 International Perspectives and Practice requirements for Health and Social Care Practitioners (Distance Learning with 3 Wed evening engagement in Semester 1)
- ADV760 Participation for Children and Young People (2 x 2 taught days in Nov 17)
- ADV764 Leading professionals; managing aspirations for self and others (2 x 2 taught days in Sept/Oct 17)

**Plymouth Core Research Modules**
- ADV715 Project Design for Research
- ADV716 Research Dissertation

It may be advantageous for part time students to take ADV702 Applying Evidence to Practice and attend the optional Induction Study Block (no fee) before embarking on the clinical (pathway specific) BDA Modules, for support in writing and study at Masters level. However, part time students can choose to complete the BDA Masters Modules before taking the Plymouth core modules, but must achieve 60 credits (equivalent to PgCert) before enrolling on Project Design for Research (ADV715).

**Date of Plymouth Modules (2017 - 2018 academic year)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>2 day session</th>
<th>2 day session</th>
<th>Lead</th>
<th>Essay due</th>
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<tr>
<td>Free Tuition</td>
<td>Induction Block</td>
<td>5 6th Sept 2017</td>
<td></td>
<td>Claire Hornsby</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Free</td>
<td>Webinar Induction (aimed at returning p/t students)</td>
<td>6th Sept 2017</td>
<td></td>
<td>Claire Hornsby</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Core</td>
<td>ADV702 Applying Evidence to Practice</td>
<td>7 8th Sept 2017</td>
<td>19-20th Sept 2017</td>
<td>Keith Walker</td>
<td>31/10/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Optional' Module</td>
<td>ADV764 Leading professional, managing aspirations for self and others</td>
<td>18th &amp; 19th September</td>
<td>2nd and 3rd October</td>
<td>Dr Jenny Child</td>
<td>14/11/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Core</td>
<td>ADV715 Project Design for Research</td>
<td>21-22nd Sept 2017</td>
<td>11-13th (3 day) Oct 2017</td>
<td>Professor Paul Artes</td>
<td>23/11/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Optional' Module (1st delivery)</td>
<td>ADV749 Dietetic Practice: Supported Study (distance tutorials)</td>
<td>2nd Oct 2017</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>Emma Cowley</td>
<td>21/12/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Optional' Module</td>
<td>ADV759 International Perspectives &amp; Practice requirements for Health and Social Care Practitioners</td>
<td>13/09/17</td>
<td>25/10/17 &amp; 29/11/17</td>
<td>Dr Alison Warren</td>
<td>15/01/18</td>
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Part time students who are within their 5 year time-frame can choose to take ADV715 in the 2017-18 academic year and then ADV716 in 2019.

The core modules ADV702 and ADV715 include 4-5 days of face-to-face teaching, in two study blocks of 2 + 2-3 days, as above. ADV716 is taught as two x 1 day face-to-face teaching, supported with webinars, as above (and Appendix 1).

Note: from Sept 2017, we will offer ADV702 as a Distance Learning module (pending University approval).

Distance Learning requires no attendance at Plymouth University as it is taught entirely via on-line resources that may include narrated power-points, webinars, on-line discussion and Skype/telephone supervisory tutorials.

Note: See Appendix 1 for further details of Core modules and Optional modules.

**Admission requirements & application**

Unfortunately we are not able to accept applications from non-EU overseas students for this programme as it does not comply with the current Tier 4 visa requirements.

Applicants will normally have an in depth knowledge of nutrition and dietetics to honours degree level (or European first cycle equivalent) and evidence of relevant previous experience in nutrition and dietetics is required. Previous paediatric experience is preferred to support your application of learning and is required to ensure a successful outcome if you choose to follow the 1 year full time option.

EU Students for whom English is not a first language must provide evidence of competence in written and spoken English in accordance with Plymouth Universities Admissions Code of Practice, i.e. normally a minimum overall International English Language Testing System (IELTS) of 6.5 and 5.5 in each element.

Please note: successful completion of this pathway does not lead to eligibility to apply for registration as a dietician with the UK Health and Social Care Professions Council.
Dietitians wishing to study part time should contact the **BDA Course Administrator** to register for a BDA Masters module. When you register for your first BDA Masters module you will also complete the process for registration onto the part time MSc Advanced Professional Practice (Paediatric Dietetics) pathway.

To register for a Plymouth University module, contact the Professional Development Unit: e-mail: pdu@plymouth.ac.uk

**Please register for a Plymouth University module at least 2 months before the scheduled module start date.**

**2017-18 Cost for Plymouth Core/Optional modules:**

Please follow the link below to access current information on fees:


*Note: This does NOT include the cost of travel, meals and accommodation.*

This Masters programme is jointly managed by the Paediatric Specialist Group of the BDA and Plymouth University. Those wishing to study the 1 year full time option can download an electronic application from the Postgraduate section of the Plymouth University website.

Return your full time application to the Professional Development Unit (see contacts).

**Studying for a Masters degree:** Are you ready to study at Masters level?

All students who choose to study a BDA Paediatric Module as a stand-alone M module or as part of the Masters programme are advised to refresh their understanding, knowledge and skill in evidence based practice. The BDA Masters Modules are essentially assessing your ability to work as an advanced practitioner, by exploring and applying both best practice and current research evidence to the practice setting. If you are unsure of your ability in this field or would simply like to update your skills and gain confidence before you start, you will find suitable textbooks and websites listed under Study References below, for guidance.

Induction material, including podcasts giving guidance on study at Masters level are available on the Plymouth University MSc Advanced Professional Practice web-page. These are available following registration onto the programme with Plymouth University log-in details.
Are you ready to study for a Masters in Advanced Professional Practice?

Follow the pathway below to assess whether you are ready to study at Masters level?

Do you want to gain a Masters level qualification?

No  
Study module at BDA credit level only

Yes  
Do you have adequate time to complete the Masters assessment? (1-2 days/wk for 6 wks)

No  
Study at BDA credit level. You can choose to APEL the module assessment at a later date, if circumstances change

Yes  
Are you comfortable with the terms ‘critical appraisal’ and ‘evidence based practice’?

No  
You should access a suitable text on ‘Evidence Based Practice’ and review on-line web tools on ‘critical appraisal’, before you register for your first module (see Study References)

Yes  
Contact the BDA Course Administrator to register for a BDA Paediatric Module & Plymouth University to attend ADV702 Applying Evidence to Practice

Suggested text

GREENHALGH, T (2010) How to read a paper: The basics of evidence based medicine. John Wiley and Sons Ltd.


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e-books


Suggested websites

Critical Appraisal Skills Programme (CASP)
http://www.casp-uk.net/

International Centre for Allied Health Evidence (iCAHE)

NHS Evidence
http://www.evidence.nhs.uk/default.aspx

National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE)
http://www.nice.org.uk/

Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network (SIGN)
http://www.sign.ac.uk/

Wales Centre for Evidence-Base Care (WCEBC)
http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/sonms/research/researchcentres/wcebc/index.html

NHS Choices (c.f. behind the headlines)
http://www.nhs.uk/Pages/homepage.aspx?WT.srch=1

The Cochrane Library
http://www.thecochranelibrary.com/view/0/index.html
CONTACT DETAILS

Key contact:  
The BDA Course Administrator: Hayley Clarke  
The British Dietetic Association  
5th Floor, Charles House, 148/9 Great Charles Street Queensway  
Birmingham B3 3HT  
Direct Line: 0121-200-8024  
Switchboard: 0121-200-8080  
e-mail: H.Clarke@bda.uk.com  
website: www.bda.uk.com

Professional Lead: Vanessa Shaw, Honorary Associate Professor, Plymouth University  
e-mail: vanessa.shaw@gosh.nhs.uk

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e-mail: Jane.Campbell-Baigrie@plymouth.ac.uk

Academic Lead: Dr Anne Payne, Associate Professor of Dietetics  
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Plymouth University  
Derriford Road  
Plymouth PL6 8BH  
Tel: 01752 588832  
e-mail: anne.payne@plymouth.ac.uk  
Website: www.plymouth.ac.uk/postgraduate
Appendix 1

Content of Plymouth University Modules

Core Modules
These modules are inter-professional, common to all the pathways and required for the MSc.

**ADV702 Applying Evidence to Practice** *(Taught face-face 2 x 2 days, or via Distance Learning from Sept 2017, pending University approval)*
This module is aimed at the application of evidence based practice (EBP) to professional practice. The students will learn how to use research to guide best practice. They will identify a question relevant to their area of practice, review and critique the literature in the area, plan and evaluate any necessary change to professional practice.

**ADV715 Project Design for Research** *(Taught face-face 1x 2 day and 1 x 3 day block)*
Students will explore methodology and methods relevant to the development of a research project and by the end of the module will formulate a research proposal. The module will explore defining and refining a research question, selecting and appraising methodology, ethical, selecting and appraising data collection and analysis techniques.

**ADV716 Research Dissertation** *(Taught face-face 1 day + webinars and 1 x 2 day block)*
Over the course of the module students will complete their dissertation as part of their Advanced Professional Practice Masters programme under supervision from the module team and a named dissertation supervisor.

Optional Modules
Candidates can take one optional module to align with their learning needs.

**ADV749 – Dietetic Practice: Supported Study** *(Distance learning mode)*
This module is specifically designed to enable students to develop their own professional practice by undertaking and reflecting on learning and experience gained through a period of supported independent study related to agreed learning objectives. For example, previous projects undertaken include a review of the dietary management of: Ketogenic diets, Weight Management, Parenteral Nutrition, PEG feeding. Thus students identify an area of their own clinical practice that they would like to study in depth, to support a review and update of the relevant care pathway.

**ADV759 - International Perspectives and Practice requirements for Health and Social Care Practitioners** *(Distance Learning with 3 Wed evening engagement in Semester 1)*
This 20 credit masters-level module provides the opportunity to explore current research and development related to a range of countries and ultimately incorporate
this learning into a professional development plan towards considering career development within these contexts. It aims to develop critical analysis of key drivers and research from a global health perspective and increase understanding of current international health and social care professional practice. Critical reflection skills will develop which will enable the student to become a reflexive practitioner with an enhanced awareness of values informing their professional practice.

There are opportunities to debate the roles of international organisations, policy and legislation in shaping the health of populations, such as the World Health Organisation, and become familiar with the roles of key international professional bodies/organisations whilst exploring the student’s profession in a country or context of their choice.

**ADV764 - Leading professionals; managing aspirations for self and others** *(Taught face-face 2 x 2 days)*

This module will equip learners with the knowledge and skills needed to actively understand and inform personal development and individual leadership qualities. The module focus will use the professional arena to explore how engagement in personal leadership development can help self and others to reach their full potential, both individually and for organisational advancement.

To enable learners to understand and to gain leadership awareness, exploring the impact it can have on development and individual performance, and the influence on professional and organisational opportunities. Through the exploration of self and team behaviour learners will engage in activities which will promote self-awareness and understanding strengthening their ability to self-manage and influence others while utilising the resources available to them.

**ADV760 - Participation for Children and Young People** *(Taught face-face 2 x 2 days)*

This 20 credit masters-level module gives students the opportunity to review current working practices, nationally and internationally, to enhance participation focus of goals with children and young people and improve service provision.

Students will gain an understanding of current trends within practice and/or research and how they shape service delivery for children and young people as well as developing analytical skills in relation to interventions and outcome measures used in children’s services and how they facilitate or inhibit participation.

Students have opportunities to debate and discuss creative solutions to practice issues and enhance their critical reflection skills to develop professional practice with children, young people and families.

Note: other available ‘optional’ modules are mostly aimed at adult care and include 4-5 days of face-to-face teaching. Details are available on request.