

Programme Specification

PGCert Children and Young People's Mental Health Leadership (part-time)

PPTZCYPMH7HC

For students entering in 2027/28

This document sets out key information about your Programme and forms part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.

Awarding Institution	University of Reading
Teaching Institution	University of Reading
Length of Programme	PGCert Children and Young People's Mental Health Leadership (part-time) - 12 months
Accreditation	N/A
Programme Start Dates	
QAA Subject Benchmarking Group	N/A

Programme information and content

Children and young people's mental health (CYP MH) services continuously need to change and adapt in the face of national and local policies, the needs of children, young people and families, and workforce and other challenges. All this needs to happen in line with the principles of CYP MH (formerly CYP Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT)). The successful implementation of transformational change requires skilled leadership and collaborative efforts across relevant sectors (health, social care and education within the NHS, schools, other statutory bodies and the voluntary, community and faith sector). This programme aims to support those in CYP MH leadership roles to implement transformational change in their services. It seeks to develop participants' knowledge, both personally and professionally, of their leadership role.

This programme is aligned to the NHS England guidance on CYP Mental Health Leadership. Enrolment on this programme is dependent on holding employment within a CYP MH service or their partner as agreed by NHSE WT&E. Therefore, a student's studies may be terminated if they are no longer working in a CYP MH service.

Programme Learning Outcomes

-PGCert Children and Young People's Mental Health Leadership (part-time)

During the course of the Programme, you will have the opportunity to develop a range of skills, knowledge and attributes (known as learning outcomes) For this programme, these are:

LEARNING OUTCOMES

1	Examine national and local policies shaping children and young people's mental health services, and apply this knowledge to inform strategic workforce planning decisions
2	Reflect on and apply principles of equity, diversity, inclusion, and intersectionality to promote inclusive leadership practices, in relation to the local population, the organisation, and the workforce.

3	Demonstrate a critical understanding of the importance of different types of partnership working in CYP MH provision, and skills in ways of facilitating this.
4	Critically evaluate leadership theories and models, and reflect on personal leadership values and behaviours to enhance effectiveness in leading change.
5	Examine and reflect on interpersonal leadership and communication skills to foster positive organisational culture, support others effectively, and promote collaborative working as well as applying these skills in the workplace.
6	Develop and critically evaluate knowledge of models, frameworks and theory that will enable participants to implement effective service transformation, driven by national and local policy and need.
7	Develop and critically evaluate evidence-based practice and service evaluation to inform and guide service development and workforce planning.
8	Critically appraise the importance of meaningful participation across service design and delivery, and develop methods of embedding this effectively in the service.

You will be expected to engage in learning activities to achieve these Programme learning outcomes. Assessment of your modules will reflect these learning outcomes and test how far you have met the requirements for your degree.

To pass the Programme, you will be required to meet the progression or accreditation and award criteria set out below.

Module information

The programme comprises 60 credits, allocated across two compulsory modules as shown below.

Compulsory modules

Module	Name	Credits	Level
PYMLTP	Leadership Training Practice for Children and Young People's Mental Health Services	40	M
PYMLTT	Leadership Training Theory for Children and Young People's Mental Health Services	20	M

Part-time or flexible modular arrangements

The programme will be taken part-time over one year alongside work within a sponsoring relevant sector service (health, social care and education within the NHS, schools, other statutory bodies and the voluntary, community and faith sectors.

Placement opportunities

The CYP MH pathway consists of a taught component delivered via the University and also an active contribution to service delivery within the NHS/public/voluntary sector. There are no opportunities for study abroad or alternative placements within the programme.

Study abroad opportunities

N/A

Optional modules
There are no optional modules.

Teaching and learning delivery
You will be taught primarily through a combination of seminars, discussion groups, guided reading and independent study. Skills-based competencies will be developed through a combination of observed structured simulations in small groups working intensively under close supervision with peer and tutor feedback, and supervised practice through direct contact with staff in the workplace. Some modules may include group work. Elements of your programme will be delivered via digital technology. The scheduled teaching and learning activity hours and amount of technology enhanced learning activity for your programme is indicated in the module description. In addition, you will undertake some self-scheduled teaching and learning activities, designed by and/or involving staff, enabling student flexibility.

Accreditation details
N/A

Assessment
The programme will be assessed through a combination of written assignments, presentations and other coursework for example objective structured clinical examination (OSCE), appraisal including reflections, transformation and reflective log and portfolio. Further information is contained in the individual module descriptions.

Progression
N/A

Classification
The University's taught postgraduate marks classification is as follows: Mark Interpretation 70 - 100% Distinction 60 - 69% Merit 50 - 59% Good standard (Pass) Failing categories:

40 - 49% Work below threshold standard

0 - 39% Unsatisfactory Work

For Postgraduate Certificate

The following conditions must be satisfied for the award of a Postgraduate Certificate:

Award of a Postgraduate Certificate

- i. an overall weighted average of 50% or more over 60 credits.
- ii. No credits with a mark below 40%.

In addition, for the award of PGCert Children and Young People's Mental Health Leadership, students must:

- i. obtain a mark of at least 50% in each module

If students do not pass the overall weighted assessments they will be awarded a CPD certificate.

Details of the classification method is given in detail in the [Assessment Handbook](#) under:

- Section 19: Awards: Postgraduate Master's, Postgraduate Diploma, Postgraduate Certificate

Please note that there may be a specific version for your year of entry.

Additional costs of the programme

N/A – employer should cover travel expenses and NHSE covers tuition fees.

Costs are indicative and may vary according to optional modules chosen and are subject to inflation and other price fluctuations. Estimates were calculated in 2026.

Students may consider purchasing a laptop to help support their learning. Information on recommended device specifications can be found on the [DTS Student Hub](#).

For further information about your Programme please refer to the Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions, which are available at <http://www.reading.ac.uk/module/>. The Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions do not form part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.

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30 July 2026

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