

SCHOOL OF PSYCHOLOGY PROGRAMME

**RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING (RPL) AND CREDIT TRANSFER FOR
POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES**

2026-27

SCOPE OF APPLICATIONS

This statement covers the following Postgraduate Psychology programmes:

Postgraduate Certificate in Cognitive Behavioural Therapy Studies
Postgraduate Certificate in Low Intensity Psychological Therapies
Postgraduate Diploma in Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (Full and Part-time Routes)
MSc Foundations in Clinical Psychology
MSc Foundations in Clinical Psychology with Professional Skills Portfolio
MSc in Forensic Psychology*
MSc in Forensic Psychology (non-accredited)*
MSc Sport & Exercise Psychology
Doctorate in Clinical Psychology

*These programmes are suspended for 2026/27 entry

Note: Restrictions apply to postgraduate programmes, including those under the NHS Talking Therapies initiative.

- The Postgraduate Certificate in Cognitive Behavioural Therapy Studies is a Continuing Professional Development (CPD) professional programme and so applications for RPL/RPEL or Credit Transfer are not accepted.
- The Postgraduate Certificate in Low Intensity Psychological Therapies is a professionally approved and accredited programme. Due to accreditation and NHS England Talking Therapies requirements the programme does not accept applications for RPL/RPEL or Credit Transfer.
- The Postgraduate Diploma in Cognitive Behavioural Therapy-Full and part-time routes (which incorporates the IAPT curriculum for High Intensity Psychological Therapies) will accept RPL and Credit Transfer for the following modules to a maximum of 60 credits: PSY8090, PSY8091, PSY8092, PSY8093, PSY8094, PSY8095, PSY8096. These credits must come from comparable modules within programmes

accredited by the British Association of Behavioural and Cognitive Psychotherapies (BABCP) or their equivalent. Recognition of Prior Experiential Learning is not accepted. For accreditation reasons applications for RPL/RPEL or credit transfer are not accepted for the CBT Practice Modules, PSY8097, PSY8098 and PSY8099.

Note: Exit Postgraduate Certificates in Cognitive Behavioural Studies awarded by this Institution may not be used for RPL or credit transfer against a higher qualification in any other Newcastle University School of Psychology programme unless specified.

- The MSc Foundations in Clinical Psychology will accept up to 40 credits of Credit Transfer/RPL if the content of such credits comes from similar modules taken at level seven elsewhere. Recognition of Prior Experiential Learning is not accepted.
- The MSc in Forensic Psychology is a professionally approved and accredited programme. Applications for RPL/credit transfer will be assessed on a case-by-case basis and we will accept up to 20 credits of RPL/credit transfer, these credits must come from an equivalent Level 7 module with comparable content and learning outcomes. Recognition of Prior Experiential Learning (RPEL) is not accepted.
- The MSc in Forensic Psychology (non-accredited) is a professionally approved programme. Applications for RPL/credit transfer will be assessed on a case-by-case basis and we will accept up to 20 credits of RPL/credit transfer, these credits must come from an equivalent Level 7 module with comparable content and learning outcomes. Recognition of Prior Experiential Learning (RPEL) is not accepted.
- The MSc in Sport and Exercise Psychology is a professionally approved and accredited programme. Applications for RPL/credit transfer will be assessed on a case-by-case basis and we will accept up to 20 credits of RPL/credit transfer, these credits must come from an equivalent Level 7 module with comparable content and learning outcomes. Recognition of Prior Experiential Learning (RPEL) is not accepted.
- The Doctorate in Clinical Psychology is a professionally approved and accredited programme. Due to the nature of the programme and accreditation requirements the programme does not accept applications for RPL/RPEL or Credit Transfer.

For those programmes that do accept Credit Transfer and RPL normally only learning within the last five years can be taken into account.

WHO TO APPROACH

The contact person in the first instance is the Degree Programme Director for each programme:

Postgraduate Certificate in Low Intensity Psychological Therapies: Laura Stevenson,
laura.stevenson@newcastle.ac.uk

Postgraduate Certificate and Diploma in Cognitive Behavioural Therapies: Dr Anna Chaddock, Anna.Chaddock1@ncl.ac.uk

MSc Foundations in Clinical Psychology: Dr Gavin Clark, gavin.clark@ncl.ac.uk

MSc Forensic Psychology (accredited and non-accredited programmes Dr Gavin Clark, gavin.clark@ncl.ac.uk

MSc Sport & Exercise Psychology: Tracy Donachie tracy.donachie@ncl.ac.uk (0191 208 7562)

Doctorate in Clinical Psychology: Dr. Sarah Thwaites, Sarah.thwaites@ncl.ac.uk (0191 208 0297)

What evidence will be required:

Applicants will be asked to supply a transcript showing level, credits and marks plus copies of syllabuses.

WHAT ADVICE AND INFORMATION WILL BE GIVEN
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Each applicant for RPL or credit transfer will be issued with the relevant module outline forms specifying the learning outcomes and given an RPL/credit transfer application form.

Applicants will be advised to send details and evidence of the relevant certificated learning.

Applicants will also be advised that they may also be invited for interview to discuss further details of their prior learning.

HOW RPL DECISIONS ARE MADE

Applications should be submitted via e-mail to the DPD for consideration.

Decisions of the application of RPL will be made by the DPD in consultation with other selectors for each programme.

Applicants should hear the results of their application within 20 working days.