



## **ITEC Level 3 Diploma in Infant and Child Massage Rationale**

### **Aims and objectives**

The ITEC Level 3 Diploma in Infant and Child Massage is comprised of ITEC Unit 57 which has 3 elements - theory, practical and case studies

The main aim of the ITEC Level 3 Diploma in Infant and Child Massage is to enable candidates to teach parents/guardians how to massage their infant/child for the purposes of relaxation.

It also aims:

- to provide skills at Level 3 in the National Qualification Framework for those interested in the Health and Medical industry
- to provide opportunities for staff in the Health and Medical industry to gain a Level 3 qualification
- to qualify candidates in Infant and Child massage at Level 3 in the Health and Medical industry
- to encourage knowledge and understanding for the Health and Medical industry at Level 3
- to provide opportunities for candidates to focus on the development of the major key skills and the wider key skills in a therapy context such as communicating with parent/guardian and infant/child, working with others and problem solving
- to provide opportunities for candidates to develop a range of skills and techniques, personal qualities and attitudes essential for successful performance in employment in Infant and Child Massage.

The candidate will study the theory of the anatomy and physiology of the infant/child as well as the development, bonding and sleep patterns of the baby, and the effects of depression in the mother. The underpinning knowledge and skills required to successfully perform an infant/child massage treatment are also required.

Case studies are also required to be completed for this award. The case studies form the internal assessment and should be assessed throughout the training by the tutor using the ITEC Case Study Guidance sheet. The case studies are then verified by an ITEC Examiner at the end of the course during the visit for invigilating the practical examination. The case studies ensure that a variety of clients must be consulted and treated and the outcomes of the treatments must be documented in order to gain experience of working with a variety of clients and conditions whilst candidates are still under supervision.

The examination consists of:

- Unit 57 Infant and Child Massage multiple choice theory paper of 30 minutes duration with 25 questions
- Unit 57 Practical exam conducted by an ITEC Practical Examiner
- Internal Assessment of ALL case studies by the College Lecturer and External Verification by the ITEC Practical Examiner.

### **Recommended prior learning**

It is recommended that candidates are qualified in Midwifery, Health Visiting or Paediatric Nursing prior to commencing the ITEC Level 3 Diploma in Infant and Child Massage (midwives, health visitors and paediatric nurses must have current registration with the Nursing and Midwifery Council). Candidates with the ITEC Level 3 Diploma in Holistic Massage are also eligible for the course. Candidates must also be at least 18 years of age. Please note: Centres are required to produce evidence of enhanced Criminal Records Bureau checks for each candidate (these must be carried out prior to commencement of the course).

### **Opportunities for progression**

Once candidates have achieved the ITEC Level 3 Diploma in Infant and Child Massage they may progress onto other ITEC or equivalent awards at Level 3, for example:

- Aromatherapy

Professional indemnity and public liability insurance can be obtained via the Complementary Therapists Association (CThA) or other industry associations who recognise the ITEC Diploma.

### **Relationship to National Occupational Standards**

As there are currently no National Occupational Standards for Level 3 Infant and Child Massage by which to map this qualification, ITEC has ensured that best practice in the workplace has been reflected in the syllabus. ITEC has linked the qualification to the relative job role as well as ensuring that the syllabus reflects the required level of knowledge and ability for the Infant and Child Massage Therapist.