

MSc Mental Health in Children and Young People: Psychological Approaches (Online Learning)

Dr Laura A. Cariola Programme Director

21 May 2025, 9.30am and 6.00pm UK time







University of Edinburgh



- One of the top universities in the world for teaching quality and research excellence
- We look after our students and make sure they thrive on their online programme





Background

- First offered in 2014/15
- Initially titled MSc Mental Health and Wellbeing of Children, Young People and Families
- Adapted and renamed in 2016/2017
- Increased student numbers: 8 to 150 in recent years





Characteristics of the Programme

- Delivered fully online and can be completed flexibly over 2-4 years
- UK-students can apply for a Postgraduate Loan to complete the programme within 2 years
- Aimed at professionals working with children and young people, or graduates interested in working with children and young people
- Students can study from any location and time that suits them
- Online degree is academically equivalent to the campus-based MSc programmes





Aims of the MSc Programme

To encourage students to think more critically about:

- Child and young people mental health and wellbeing
- Approaches we take to treating children with psychological problems and psychopathology





Aims of the MSc Programme

- Focus on the influence of developmental processes at multiple levels from the individual to the sociocultural
- Psychological theory and evidence on understanding child mental health
- Supportive clinical environment for children and adolescents





Courses

- Social Inequality and Child and Adolescent Mental Health
- Typical and Atypical Child Development
- Applied Developmental Psychopathology
- Trauma and Resilience in a Developmental Context
- Child Migration and Mental Health
- Student-Led, Individually-Created Course (SLICC)
- Research Methods in Applied Psychology
- Dissertation





Critical Perspective to Psychopathology

- Critical examination of knowledge introduced throughout the programme from an alternative perceptive
- Offers a critical reflexivity that moves beyond more traditional approaches to psychopathology





Learning Environment and Activities

- VLE Blackboard LEARN
- Asynchronous and synchronous delivery
- Online tutorials in the morning and evening UK time
- Flipped classroom
- Communities of practice
- Student-led activities with support from coordinator
- Narrated group presentations
- Supported discussion boards
- Personal reading time





Aim of our Approach to Online Teaching

- Fosters interaction between student, content, and tutors
- Optimised student engagement through tutor involvement in knowledge production
- Facilities learning through providing intellectual stimulation, salient questions and resources for further inquiry
- Encourage critical and reflective thinking and real-world application of concepts and skills





Teaching and Learning Activities

- The programme places connection between students and staff at the forefront
- All courses offer multiple opportunities to engage with peers and the course team
- Online 'space' solely for students to use to support each other
- Interface can be downloaded onto most smart phones





Benefits of Studying Online

- Students are part of a supportive and intellectually stimulating learning environment
- Dedicated student support
- Unique and diverse classroom experience
- Building strong professional networks on the programme
- Global insight and critical skills highly attractive to prospective employers





Career Developments

- Promotion in existing career
- Specialism in child and young people mental health
- Employment in public and third-sector organisation, e.g. NHS, national and international NGOs
- Continuation with applied training course:
 - Educational Psychology
 - Clinical / Counselling Psychology
 - Children's Wellbeing Practitioners
- Assistant Psychologists
- PhD-level study





STUDENT TESTIMONIES





"The online Masters in Mental Health in Children & Young People has provided me an invaluable academic foundation and professional skills to pursue a career in an NHS clinical practitioner role." - Clare Ashman





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Asking questions (Collaborate)

- Please use the "hand raise icon" to queue up your question
- When called upon by to ask your question, type it into the "Text chat area"
- Once your question is answered, please lower your hand



Say something			:	
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Next steps...

Attend live or watch the recording of our 'How to make an effective application' session for guidance on applying to the University

□ If you have questions after the Online Learning Open Days, chat to our current students about their experience via the Unibuddy platform:



https://www.ed.ac.uk/studying/postgraduate/student-life/student-chat



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Contact details for follow-up questions

If you have further questions about the programme, please contact:

Miss Katie Killeen (Programme Administrator) cyp.msc@ed.ac.uk

or

Dr Laura Cariola (Programme Director) Laura.Cariola@ed.ac.uk









Thank you

To leave the session, click on the red 'leave' button





