GOOD TO KNOW

PLAY THERAPY UK MONTHLY

Harvest season.

Gathering knowledge. Growing the profession.

New leadership, revalidation dates, international updates, research, professional learning and opportunities for members.

NEWS | MEMBERSHIP | CHARTER | INTERNATIONAL | RESEARCH | LEARNING | JOBS



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Section colours repeat throughout the issue so updates are easy to find.

NEWS

PTUK into 2027

Sarah Bentley will lead Play Therapy UK from 1 January 2027.

PTUK has appointed Sarah Bentley MA, an accredited Play Therapist, as Chief Executive Officer.

A handover period will begin on 1 November 2026.



1 JANUARY 2027

Sarah formally takes over as CEO

PTUK IN 2027

Sarah will focus on strengthening PTUK's operations and extending its reach so more children across the UK can access the support they need.

2027

MEMBERSHIP

Membership revalidation: key dates

Please note the opening dates and the dedicated member meeting.

1 NOVEMBER 2026

Approved Supervisors

Revalidation opens

1 DECEMBER 2026

All other membership categories

Revalidation opens

1 DECEMBER 2026 · 6:00 PM

PTUK Revalidation Member Meeting

Online · UK time

SUBMIT QUESTIONS IN ADVANCE

YourVoice@ptukorg.com · subject: Revalidation Meeting

MEETING ACCESS

Meeting ID 890 2227 2331 · Passcode 680726

Join the Zoom meeting

The meeting will not be recorded. Notes and added guidance will be placed in the FAQs within Members' Resources.

Membership support during revalidation

How to contact the team and what support is available.

The Contact Team remains available

Contact@ptukorg.com

KATE AND YULI

Continue to manage incoming email and telephone enquiries. Some matters may need additional input before the team can fully resolve them.

CHARLOTTE

Primarily supports CPD and post-qualifying courses with CPD Lead Lauren Lamberton, and will help with more detailed membership enquiries where possible.

A note on response times

All three colleagues work part-time, so some replies may take a little longer. Please treat the team with kindness, patience and courtesy while they focus on supporting members effectively.

Thank you to the Membership Team for their continued work and care.

THE CHILD MENTAL HEALTH CHARTER AND COMMITMENT

Meet the renewed Charter committee

New leadership and continued focus on children's access to safe, effective support.



Melanie Jones

Chair of the Child Mental Health Charter

Melanie is a Certified Play Therapist, trainee Creative Clinical Supervisor and owner of Precious Hands SEND Support & Therapies. After two years on the committee, she now leads work to raise awareness, strengthen recognition of qualified professionals and promote evidence-informed support.



Cathy Baker

Writing and Communications Lead

Cathy joined the committee in 2022 and continues to lead its writing and communications. She welcomes reports, professional writing and networking opportunities that can extend the Charter's reach.

The committee will continue to connect professional practice with public awareness and policy engagement.

From local voices to national policy

Committee roles supporting political engagement and coordinated action.



Joe Dolan

MP Mentor

Joe will help therapists engage confidently with their local MPs—from a first letter and initial meeting through to follow-up. His focus is making political engagement more accessible and helping the profession communicate clearly with decision-makers.



Anna Joy

Administrator

Anna champions children's voices through Outdoor Play Therapy in Worcestershire. As Administrator, she will support coordination and practical action so that more children can access help that leaves them feeling heard and understood.

Members who want support approaching their MP can now connect with the Charter through the Chair's email address on the following page.

Standards, accountability and children's voices

Two committee members bring lived, clinical and educational experience.



Sarah Vaughan

Committee member

Sarah's advocacy is grounded in her experience as a foster carer and her MA in Practice-Based Play Therapy. She focuses on safe, effective support from appropriately qualified professionals, backed by clear standards and accountability.



Gina Bryant

Committee member

Gina is a PTUK Accredited Play Therapist and MFL Teacher with more than ten years' experience supporting children, including those with SEND. She is committed to nurturing spaces where children build confidence, resilience and self-expression.

Contact the Charter committee

chair@childmentalhealthcharter.com

PLAY THERAPY MATTERS AROUND THE WORLD

Poland: training grows and a first conference takes shape

A focused October round-up from Warsaw.

NEW CERTIFICATE COHORT

PTCert21 starts on 23 October 2026 at the Polish Play Therapy Institute in Warsaw-Wesoła.

DIPLOMA TRAINING CONTINUES

PTDip2Pl began in August. Students have now started their clinical placements and supervision.



FIRST INTERNATIONAL PLAY THERAPY CONFERENCE IN POLAND

20 February 2027 · Warsaw

Trauma in autism or autism in trauma? How to support children with emotional development difficulties

Confirmed speakers include Certified Trainer of Play Therapy Ivanka Gregurinčić from Croatia and Professor Anna Prokopiak from Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin. Around 150 participants are expected.

The organisers welcome colleagues from the PTUK/PTI community and hope to secure promotion, CPD recognition and representation at the event.

PLAY THERAPY MATTERS AROUND THE WORLD · POLAND

Poland: research and a growing professional voice

Publishing, podcasts and outreach are making Play Therapy easier to find in Polish.

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLE

“Play Therapy – terapia poprzez bawienie się” now has DOI 10.17431/892366, supporting international citation of Polish-language Play Therapy research.

Open the article DOI

RESEARCH IDENTITY

ORCID 0009-0006-2739-9885 helps make Nina Ambroziak’s research easier to find and cite.

View ORCID record



Also underway

Professional book — A manuscript for Polish practitioners is now in editing.

Current channels — The Spotify podcast Art of Play Therapy and LinkedIn newsletter Z kozetki na dywan bring Play Therapy thinking to Polish-speaking professionals and parents.

From November — Dziecko w centrum uwagi launches on YouTube, exploring children’s experiences of parental separation and divorce conflict.

PLAY THERAPY MATTERS AROUND THE WORLD · INDIA

Play Therapy Information Day in Mumbai

Saturday 31 October 2026 · 11:00 am–4:00 pm · Lower Parel

playtherapy.org.in



PLAY THERAPY MATTERS AROUND THE WORLD · THAILAND

Filial Play Coaching: learning through practice

From the third page of the Play Therapy Thailand newsletter.



In March, we welcomed the **Filial Play Coaching Course** for the second consecutive year!

With a small and dedicated group of students, the course offered a wonderful opportunity for meaningful exchanges, experiential learning and personal reflection.

Our students have now gained valuable new skills and practical experience to support parents more directly in strengthening their relationships with their children through play.

That was another important step in their professional development, and a reminder that empowering parents can make a lasting difference in children's emotional wellbeing.

Thank you for sharing your valuable thoughts and feelings:

"The training was very insightful and will be helpful to my career".

"I would recommend this course for therapists who are interested in supporting parents".

"I like how the programme is structured but also flexible. It allows for tailorisation for individual families, but also a framework to avoid confusion […]*"*



PLAY THERAPY RESEARCH

Coming soon: research from our community

A new social series is being prepared from data recorded through professional practice.



What to expect

PREPARED FROM PRACTICE

PTUK/PTI has reviewed and organised a substantial body of data recorded by practitioners through Fortuna.

TOPICS

Outcomes, referral patterns, use of the therapeutic toolkit and wider professional practice.

CAREFUL COMMUNICATION

Findings will be shared clearly, with context and confidentiality kept visible throughout.

Follow the official PTUK channels

The series will begin on social media soon, turning professional record keeping into accessible community learning.

PROFESSIONAL RESOURCE

Why choose a registered Play Therapist?

A five-page booklet for conversations with parents, schools, referrers and commissioners.



Find and share the resource

1. **Visit playtherapy.org.uk**
2. **Open Play Therapy in the main menu**
3. **Choose Why Choose a Registered Play Therapist**
4. **Open or download the five-page booklet**

Open the booklet directly

What it helps explain

Professional registration, Level 7 university-accredited training, independent quality assurance, PSA-accredited membership grades, evidence-based practice and continuing professional development.

A practical sharing tool

Use it when explaining standards, qualifications and professional protection to families, schools, referrers or commissioners.

SOCIAL MEDIA

New channels for our professional community

Distinct series make useful Play Therapy content easier to recognise and follow.

We are developing clearer content channels so members can find useful information more easily and bring it into their Play Therapy practice.

Play Therapy Research

PLAY THERAPY

MYTHS & FACTS

THE TOY IN MY

PLAY THERAPY

TOOLKIT

What do you think of our new content series?

Tell us what feels useful, what you would like to see next or how you might like to take part. We also welcome ideas for member engagement activities.

Contact@ptukorg.com

POST-QUALIFYING COURSES

Upcoming post-qualifying courses

Current dates listed on the PTUK website, checked 26 October 2026.

Course	Location	Dates	Fee
Clinical Supervision	Pontefract	4–6 Nov 2026 12–15 Jan 2027	£1,300
Advanced Practitioner Certificate in Therapeutic Group Work	Online	20–21 Nov 2026 26–27 Feb & 16 Apr 2027	£800
Clinical Supervision	London	28–31 Jan 12–14 Feb 2027	£1,300
Clinical Supervision	Belfast	29–31 Jan 11–14 Mar 2027	£1,300
Play & Creative Arts Counselling of Children and Young People	Belfast	19–21 Feb 8–11 Apr 2027	£1,300
Clinical Supervision	Glasgow	11–14 Mar 16–18 Apr 2027	£1,300
Play & Creative Arts Counselling of Children and Young People	Glasgow	1–7 Apr 2027	£1,300
Play & Creative Arts Counselling of Children and Young People	Windsor	Dates to be confirmed	See site

Deposits, full admission criteria, course requirements and application links are available online.

View course details and apply

CPD COURSES

Live CPD calendar

Online webinars · two hours · £45 per course.

Date	Course	Time	Fee
5 Nov 2026	Death and Dying in the Playroom	6:30 pm	£45
11 Nov 2026	Endings and Goodbyes	7:00 pm	£45
12 Nov 2026	Using Games in the Playroom	6:30 pm	£45
26 Nov 2026	Punishment and Reward in Play Therapy	6:30 pm	£45
1 Dec 2026	Hide and Seek in the Playroom	7:00 pm	£45
2 Dec 2026	Working with Children Seeking Asylum and Refuge	7:00 pm	£45
9 Dec 2026	Grief and Loss in the Playroom	7:00 pm	£45
10 Dec 2026	Boundaries and Limit Testing in the Playroom	6:30 pm	£45

Places and dates can change. Check the live listing before booking. View all CPD webinars

JOBS & OPPORTUNITIES

Recruitment: Play Therapist, Frankie Worker Service

Yellow Door · Hampshire · one-year fixed-term contract

ROLE AT A GLANCE

£30,847–£36,108

Full-time equivalent salary

22.5–30 hours per week

One-year fixed term · self-employed options available

Preventing and Responding to Domestic and Sexual Abuse

The role

Provide community-based therapeutic support for children aged 0–10 who have experienced sexual abuse, sexual exploitation or female genital mutilation. The role works across Hampshire between Yellow Door Southampton and community settings.

WHO THEY ARE LOOKING FOR

An experienced, qualified Play Therapist with children-and-trauma experience and knowledge of evidence-based work relating to sexual abuse.

PRACTICAL REQUIREMENTS

Travel is essential and the postholder must be a car user. Tuesdays are required for supervision and team meetings. Some early evening work may be needed. Enhanced DBS disclosure applies.

Open until appointed

Informal enquiries: Rachel Edwards or Annabel Rich · 02380 636312 · recruitment@yellowdoor.org.uk

View supporting documents and apply

CONTACT

Useful contacts and quick links

Keep key dates, resources and opportunities within easy reach.

REVALIDATION

Submit a meeting question

YourVoice@ptukorg.com

MEMBERSHIP

Contact the support team

Contact@ptukorg.com

LEARNING

View PQ courses and admission criteria

Open the course page

CPD

Browse live webinars

Open the CPD calendar

PROFESSIONAL RESOURCE

Download Why Choose a Registered Play Therapist

Open the five-page booklet

RECRUITMENT

Yellow Door Play Therapist vacancy

View vacancy and apply

Instagram Facebook LinkedIn

Thank you for helping the profession grow.

Good to Know brings together member information, professional resources and news from the PTUK/PTI community. Please keep sharing updates, research, training and opportunities for future editions.

Suggestions and contributions are welcome

Contact@ptukorg.com

