

# HANDLE® Practitioner Course

## Application Pack- Brighton 2015



### Course Overview

The HANDLE Practitioner Course is a comprehensive course designed to develop the knowledge and skills to provide the full range of HANDLE services to individuals of all ages and with any challenges. You will build substantially on the foundations of your Screener training to be able to address people's needs more profoundly and with a much larger 'tool bag'. You will also develop the expertise to work with people over longer periods of time.

The course is a combination of 4 classroom modules, distance learning and supervised clinical experience. The HANDLE Internship begins after the classroom modules when you begin to integrate and apply your learning. This involves working with a range of clients while being supervised, continuing to develop Assessment skills and knowledge and experience of the HANDLE Activities. You will also consolidate your knowledge through an Interactive Learning Tool in dialogue with a HANDLE Instructor. After successful completion of the whole course and Internship you will be eligible for Certification through The HANDLE Institute® as a HANDLE Practitioner.

The course is taught by Sean Williams, Europe's only Level 4 Practitioner Instructor, Assistant Regional Education Director for The HANDLE Institute and HANDLE Practitioner since 2001. Sean is renowned for his insight and extensive knowledge alongside his engaging, supportive and highly adaptable teaching style.

### Course Description

#### *Your own Assessment and Programme*

Before or during the first classroom module each student will have a personal HANDLE Assessment from a HANDLE Practitioner. You will receive a neurodevelopmental profile and programme of activities to enable you to experience a full HANDLE programme from the perspective of a client, and enhance your work as a Practitioner.

### ***New Tools for your Practice***

During the course you will learn to use the HANDLE Assessment Tool developed by Judith Bluestone ("HANDLE Learning Foundations Inventory") for people of varying abilities, initially focusing on individuals aged five and older who have some verbal ability and some useful eye-hand coordination. You will learn to develop in-depth client profiles, and to see patterns leading to conclusions about neurodevelopmental function and how to explain this to clients in ways that are easy to understand, as well as produce formal reports. You will learn nearly 100 HANDLE activities, and how to apply them, for all ages and level of functions.

### ***Broader Scope for your Practice***

As the training progresses you will expand your Assessment skills to work with individuals with more complex differences, as well as younger children and infants beyond the remit of your Screener training. You will learn how to support and enthuse individuals and families to understand and live the HANDLE paradigm and to get the best out of and sustain HANDLE programmes in varied circumstances. As you deepen your experience in your own life of HANDLE principles such as Gentle Enhancement and non-judgement, the course will enable you to develop more ways to educate and inspire your clients with these life transforming ideas.

### ***Growing and Reframing your Knowledge***

Throughout the course you will develop your knowledge and understanding of learning differences, reflexes and neurodevelopment from a HANDLE perspective. You will delve deeper into exploration of the stimulus response process in the brain and the neurodevelopmental systems, particularly vision and the vestibular system, and the detailed functions of interhemispheric integration. You will develop the skills to creatively integrate HANDLE with other approaches to further broaden the scope of your work as a Practitioner.

## **Internship**

The Internship consists of supervised Assessments, Presentations, Activity Checks and Reviews with clients, and completion of the in-depth Interactive Learning Tool. There will also be online class time to share and support your clinical experiences and complete the integration of your learning.

The first experiences of clinical work are during the classroom modules under the guidance of HANDLE Supervisors, with clients that are able to do the HANDLE Assessment Tool without much need for variation. You are also required to observe 3 HANDLE Assessments, Presentations, Activity Checks and Reviews to gain the necessary experience to prepare for the Internship. These can be with any Practitioner and at any point before or after any of the classroom modules (though we do not recommend observing an Assessment until you have experienced your own).

After these initial experiences you will be ready to work with individuals of many different ages and abilities, under the guidance of Certified HANDLE Supervisors. The Internship involves a minimum of 120-200 hours of clinical experience. It is designed to incrementally build an Intern's skills and competency in applying HANDLE. As completion of the Internship is based on demonstrated competency the duration will vary. Typically it is in the range of 12-24 months.

For the first time we will be arranging **Internship Practicum Weekends** lasting 3 full days. You will carry out a full Assessment, write up and Presentation for a client and support a colleague to do the same. The number of these weekends will depend upon the needs of the group.

You may also find and schedule individuals in your area who would like Assessments which will be performed in partnership with a Certified HANDLE Supervisor. This process will help build and establish HANDLE in your local area prior to certification. You also have the option of arranging to travel to a Supervisor's clinic.

Once you have shown sustained competency in supervised sessions you will progress onto Distance Supervision where paperwork is checked and videos observed but a Supervisor no longer needs to be present at your sessions. Certification may be sought for specific ages and areas of dysfunction, then expanded with experience and continuing education. While we will do our utmost to provide practicum weekends as needed, it is ultimately the Intern's responsibility to arrange enough clinical experience to demonstrate mastery. Internships are not paid experiences and as such you should not expect to earn income from practicing HANDLE during this time other than in your capacity as a Certified HANDLE Screener.

Further to your clinical experience, as part of your Internship you will also be required to organise and present a Community Information Presentation, and organise and/or assist on a Level 1 and 2 course. It may also be recommended that you attend all or part of a Level 3 Screener course either as a refresher or as a Teaching Assistant.

## Teaching Formats

**Residential Class Time-** Four modules, each beginning on a Friday evening followed by 5 full days.

The class time will be varied with lecture, discussion, work sessions, hands-on practice of the LFI Assessment Tool and the learning of new activities. You will work with other HANDLE students, Interns, Practitioners, and Instructors.

**Online Class Time-** Regular Webinars using Skype and GoToMeeting.

This will involve a mix of interactive class discussion and lecture presentation. You will be expected to attend all of the online class time- a regular time suitable for all participants will be established following acceptance on the course. If for some reason you are unable to attend an online webinar you will be required to listen to a recording and complete any

necessary assignments. If you miss and catch up more than 3 webinars you may be required to take additional training, at extra cost, at the end of the course.

### **Assignments**

Examples:

- Learning the 'Learning Foundations Inventory'.
- Practice Assessments.
- Learning and practising the HANDLE Activities.
- Individual assignments and worksheets following online class time.
- Preparation for presentations - Community Information, delivery of lecture on chosen subject- (e.g. complementary approaches; areas of special needs such as cerebral palsy, autism, vision; learning parts of the LFI etc.)
- The ILT.

**Small group learning**- Independently arranged amongst students.

Examples:

- Practicing activities, profiling, Assessments, Presentations etc.
- Preparing presentations to clients, Community Presentations and presentations to other class members.
- Doing the ILT.

### **Watch when you like videos**

There will be some films for you to take home or watch online. For example lectures about the brain and development, a profiling lecture or sample Assessments and Presentations.

## **Dates**

Each classroom module begins at 5pm on the Friday and ends at 5.30pm on the Wednesday.

Module I: 3-8th July 2015

Module II: 25th-30th September 2015

Module III: 26th February-2nd March 2016

Module IV: 29th April- 4th May 2016

Internship Practicum Weekends will follow by arrangement with participants in 2016.

The Practitioner ILT will be scheduled for completion in May 2017.

## **Fees**

£6970 residential, £6270 non-residential. The course fee includes all the classroom modules, and the distance learning elements. Payment plans to spread the course fees over 2 years are available by request. The deposit payable on acceptance to the course is £850.

The Internship Practicum Weekends will involve a separate fee. The exact cost will depend on participant numbers but is likely to be between £500-750 per module.

### ***Returners from previous Practitioner/Advanced Courses***

The fee for returning with full participation is £375 per module non-residential. Contact us to discuss if you wish to attend for less than a full module, or to attend on a residential basis.

There are a limited number of free spaces available by arrangement for returners who would like to sit in on classes and assist with practical tasks, rather than fully participate. Please expect to miss some class time if choosing this option.

### ***Cancellation Policy***

If you cancel a place within one month prior to Module I your acceptance deposit will not be refundable. Cancellation within one week prior to Module I or at any point during the course will require a minimum payment of 55% of total course fees, or more depending on timing of cancellation.

## **Application**

Acceptance on the course is by Application Only.

Prerequisites: Current status as a Certified HANDLE Screener.

### ***Checklist:***

- Fill in Application Form (also available as a Word file)
- Sign Application Form in agreement with all of the terms outlined in this document
- Write covering letter
- Send Application form and covering letter to Sean Williams, [handle@seanwilliams.co.uk](mailto:handle@seanwilliams.co.uk) or by post to 20 Northfield Way, Brighton BN1 8EH
- Pay £30 non-refundable application fee by bank transfer as detailed on Application Form.



# HANDLE® Practitioner Course Brighton 2015 Application Form

Name:  
 Address:  
 Phone number:  
 Mobile number:  
 Email:  
 Skype ID:  
 Start date and location of Screener Course:  
 Date of Certification as a Screener:  
 Occupation:  
 Employers name, address and phone number if applicable:

Dietary requirements:

Regular availability for Webinars: *PLEASE CLEARLY MARK TIMES YOU ARE AVAILABLE*

	<b>Mondays</b>	<b>Tuesdays</b>	<b>Wednesdays</b>	<b>Thursdays</b>	<b>Fridays</b>	<b>Saturdays</b>	<b>Sundays</b>
<b>Morning</b>							
<b>Afternoon</b>							
<b>Evening</b>					N/A	N/A	

Special needs or considerations while participating in this course (environmental, medical, other):

- I confirm I am currently Affiliated with The HANDLE Institute®.
- I have read the HANDLE Practitioner Application Pack and agree to the terms it outlines.
- I am aware that I may be required to do some extra study to bring my Anatomy and Physiology knowledge to a sufficient level.
- I have transferred my £30 non-refundable application fee to *Extraordinary Ltd*,  
Sort Code: 30-94-63 Account no: 21746760

Signed:

Date:

Please include a 1-2 page covering letter which outlines:

- Why you want to do the HANDLE Practitioner Course
- How you have applied your training since the Screener Course
- How you plan to use this training in the future.

Send your letter along with this completed application form to Sean Williams,  
[handle@seanwilliams.co.uk](mailto:handle@seanwilliams.co.uk) or by post to 20 Northfield Way, Brighton, BN1 8EH.