



Matrix – the strategy and the vision

As Matrix enters its eighteenth year we thought we should re-state our objective for the college and the strategy we will adopt to realise it.

Simply put, our objective is to be recognised as the foremost centre of excellence in counselling training in the region.

How do we make that happen?

First, we build on our strengths. Last year we experienced our fastest growth in student numbers, resulting in three Year 1 groups. This year, students have enjoyed a continued and increased success rate in BSc (Hons) and Diploma awards. Our outreach programme of clinical placements is growing and we are extending into new territories. Thanks to our reputation, we now have students applying to Matrix from beyond the counties of Suffolk and Norfolk. The emphasis on the quality of the courses will be maintained and we will constantly review their content to ensure we are always ready for the changes that drive the disciplines of the profession.

Secondly, we are focusing on the needs of current and future students by establishing a bespoke centre in Wymondham, an independent building which is now fully functioning and which gives us an identity and a secure base. It provides office space for administration and the opportunity for independent student study space in the library, counselling rooms and training rooms, not to mention a friendly café space and break out areas. The building allows us to consolidate our offer to students and to effectively manage the increase in student numbers so that the highest standards of tuition and student welfare can be maintained across all courses.

In the light of this, the curriculum will no longer be delivered in Ipswich from September 2021. All current student groups in Ipswich will remain there until then. From September 2021 all courses will be taught in Wymondham. Therefore, students enrolled in Ipswich Year 1 for the year commencing September 2019, and any subsequent consolidation year students, will undertake their final year/s in Wymondham.

Finally, Matrix will expand its core curriculum with the establishment of a new Masters award course. This will have the benefit of expanding the student base and of increasing the range of study options while consolidating our reputation as a centre of excellence for studies in the field of counselling and psychotherapy. We will, of course, continue to offer

the current BSc (Hons) degree course; the introduction to counselling skills course and the varied and nationally significant CPD conferences and workshops.

Our new venue reflects our commitment to excellence and will help us provide the resources to ensure our energies and vision for Matrix and its students and the quality of our courses are fully realised.

Fiona Paul

18th January 2019