



Caerdydd a'r Fro  
Cardiff and Vale

**Coleg Adfer a Lles**  
**Recovery &**  
**Wellbeing College**

# Prospectus

## Summer Term 2026

*Monday 27th April - Friday 24th July 2026*



**GIG**  
CYMRU  
**NHS**  
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol  
Caerdydd a'r Fro  
Cardiff and Vale  
University Health Board

*This document is available in Welsh / Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg*



# Cardiff and Vale Recovery & Wellbeing College

**We provide a range of free courses on a range of mental health and wellbeing topics for those with lived experience of mental health challenges, service users, carers and staff.**

The courses we have on offer are co-produced by people with lived experiences of mental health challenges, including those who have used mental health services, as well as mental health practitioners.

Our courses are accessible to all and we invite those with mental

health challenges, carers and staff to enrol.

If you would like to register as a student and enrol on our courses, please follow the link below.

<https://cardiffandvaleuhb.heiapply.com/portal/login>

If you have any queries or would like further information about the Recovery & Wellbeing College, please contact us on the details below.

 [Cardiffandvale.Recoverycollege@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:Cardiffandvale.Recoverycollege@wales.nhs.uk)

 02921 832619

 [www.cavuhb.nhs.wales/recovery-college/](http://www.cavuhb.nhs.wales/recovery-college/)



## Are you nervous or unsure about coming to the Cardiff and Vale Recovery & Wellbeing College for the first time?

If you feel worried or unsure about coming to the college to begin with, it may be because you feel you don't know enough about the college yet and need more information. You may also be worried about talking in a group due to anxiety or loss of confidence. Or you might have concerns about being able to concentrate and fully participate in the course. If you have any of these concerns, our trainers will be able to support you during the courses and have designed the courses to be suitable for people experiencing a range of difficulties. You can also meet one of our trainers before coming to a course, as detailed below.

## Come and meet one of our trainers

You are welcome to come and meet with one of our trainers one-to-one before coming to the college. At this meeting you can learn more about the college and our courses and explore what you are hoping to gain from attending the college. During the meeting, the trainer can work with you to develop an individual learning plan to help meet your individual needs. The individual learning plan can help you identify what you might like to learn, why you want to learn it and how it might help you with your wellbeing and recovery. This meeting also gives the trainers a chance to understand how we can support your learning by thinking about any barriers to learning you might have. If you have a disability or any specific health or learning difficulty, we can identify some changes which may make our courses more accessible for you. Please tell us on your enrolment form if you would like a meeting with a trainer.

# Contents

## 1. Introduction Series

1.1 Introduction to the Recovery & Wellbeing College	4
--	---

## 2. Understanding Series

2.1 Understanding Anxiety	4
2.2 Understanding Depression	4
2.3 Understanding Bipolar	4
2.4 Voices Vision and Unshared Beliefs (sometimes called psychosis)	5
2.5 Understanding Neurodiversity	5

## 3. Peer Support Skills

3.1 Peer Support Skills	5
-------------------------	---

## 4. Wellbeing

4.1 I Just Can't Sleep	6
4.2 While We Were Walking	6
4.3 I'm more than just 'tired' - making sense of fatigue	6
4.4 Being a Parent with a Mental Health Challenge	7
4.5 Managing Stress, Health & Wellbeing at Work	7
4.6 Experience of Addiction	8
4.7 Discovering Self Compassion	8
4.8 Recovery & Identity	9
4.9 Connecting to Relationships	9

4.10 Men and Mental Health	10
4.11 Living with Uncertainty	10
4.12 Care and Treatment Planning	10
4.13 Introduction to Eating Disorders	11
4.14 Under the Mask	11

## 5. Trauma Informed

5.1 Trauma Adversity and Mental Health	12
5.2 Vicarious Trauma	12

## 6. Activity / Movement for Recovery

6.1 Connections Through Activities	13
------------------------------------	----

## 7. What's Next

7.1 Signposting and further resources	13
---------------------------------------	----

## 8. Co-production NEW

8.1 How to co-produce a Co-production	14
---------------------------------------	----

## 9. Nature Based Courses and Updates

Recovery & Wellbeing College Trainers	15
Getting to know Cardiff and Vale Recovery & Wellbeing College	16
Student Charter	17
Code of Conduct for all	18



# 1. Introduction Series

## 1.1 Introduction to the College

*Delivery: 1 hour Online session*

Come along to this short co-produced session to hear more about the Recovery & Wellbeing College and what it means to be a student.

Tuesday 28th April 11:00am - 12:00pm

# 2. Understanding Series

## 2.1 Understanding Anxiety

*Delivery: 2 x 2-hour online sessions*

Anxiety is something we all experience from time to time. Most people can relate to those anxious, butterfly feelings when doing something which feels uncertain or feeling fearful about sitting exams, a medical appointment, going to the dentist. It is a natural feeling and can be useful, as it warns us when we need to take action, when we may be in danger or can even help us to perform better. This session will look at the different types of anxiety, possible causes and how you can manage these feelings. You will have the opportunity to discuss your own personal experiences whilst learning from others.

### Course 1

Session 1: Wednesday 6th May 18:30pm - 20:30pm

Session 2: Wednesday 13th May 18:30pm - 20:30pm

### Course 2

Session 1: Tuesday 9th June 13:30pm - 15:30pm

Session 2: Tuesday 16th June 13:30pm - 15:30pm

## 2.2 Understanding Depression

*Delivery: 2 x 2-hour online sessions*

Depression is a common mental health condition that can take hold of your life and deeply disrupt how we think, feel, and live our daily lives. Understanding the signs, symptoms and causes of depression is the first step to overcoming the problem. This course explores essential information about depression, how is it diagnosed and how it affects different people. We will discuss what can help overcome the hurdles to recovery, such as negative thinking and what professional support is available. We will offer practical tools to help overcome depression as well as discuss your experiences and learn from others too.

Session 1: Wednesday 13th May 13:30pm - 15:30pm

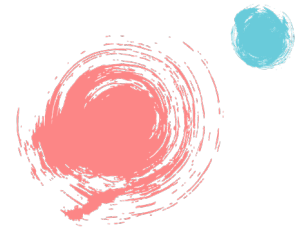
Session 2: Wednesday 20th May 13:30pm - 15:30pm

## 2.3 Understanding Bipolar

*Delivery: 1 x 3-hour online session*

Bipolar disorder is a complex disorder in which people experience episodes of low and high mood. Experiencing Bipolar and being diagnosed can be a frightening and life-changing event. There are lots of myths and prejudices about Bipolar that can make coming to terms with this diagnosis even harder. This introductory session aims to help people with their understanding of these issues. We will outline treatment options and explore ways to promote recovery and self-help.

Friday 8th May 10:00am - 13:00pm



## 2.4 Voices Visions and Unshared Beliefs (sometimes called psychosis)

*Delivery: 2 x 2.5-hour in-person sessions*

This two-part course will explore voices, visions and unshared beliefs. We are mindful that the language used to describe these experiences is personal and this is one of many discussions we will have as a group. We will also explore why these experiences develop, how we can make sense of them and how to live with them.

**Session 1: Wednesday 8th July 13:00pm - 15:30pm**

**Session 2: Wednesday 15th July 13:00pm - 15:30pm**

## 2.5 Understanding Neurodiversity

*Delivery: 4 x 2.5-hour in-person sessions*

This in person course provides an opportunity to explore the meaning of neurodiversity and the emotional and social experiences of living as a neurodivergent person. We will consider identity, communication and mental health in relation to neurodiversity, and we will also explore the challenges and benefits of being neurodivergent. We will explore what helps and what doesn't help neurodivergent people, focusing on emotional wellbeing and self-acceptance.

**Session 1: Thursday 25th June 14:30pm - 17:00pm**

**Session 2: Thursday 2nd July 14:30pm - 17:00pm**

**Session 3: Thursday 9th July 14:30pm - 17:00pm**

**Session 4: Thursday 16th July 14:30pm - 17:00pm**



## 3. Peer Support Skills

### 3.1 Peer Support Skills

*Delivery: 4 x 3-hour in-person sessions*

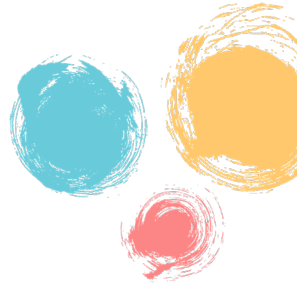
A peer is someone who has 'lived experience of mental health and/or physical health challenges,' who wants to use this experience in order to support others with their own recovery. A peer offers support to others through sharing their personal experiences of recovery in a hope inspiring way. This course is a basic introduction to peer support skills and a perfect place to start your peer support worker journey. Learners do not have to have previous experience in peer support.

**Session 1: Thursday 30th April 13:30pm - 16:30pm**

**Session 2: Thursday 7th May 13:30pm - 16:30pm**

**Session 3: Thursday 14th May 13:30pm - 16:30pm**

**Session 4: Thursday 21st May 13:30pm - 16:30pm**



## 4. Wellbeing

### 4.1 I Just Can't Sleep

*Delivery: 1 x 2.5-hour in person session*

Living with a mental or physical health challenge can affect our sleep. When our sleep is impacted it can also affect our health and wellbeing. This online session will explore how sleep works, why we need it and the common causes of some sleep difficulties, with the aim of helping you form some strategies to improve your sleep.

Thursday 28th May 13:00pm - 15:30pm



### 4.2 While We Were Walking

*Delivery: 4 x 2-hour in person sessions*

We will explore the natural environment together, in a mindful and enjoyable way. Throughout the course we will reflect on how being active and being present in natural surroundings can help with our wellbeing. The sessions will be based around exploring some simple art making techniques to capture what we find when we are connecting with nature. The walking is gentle, and all abilities are welcome.

Session 1: Wednesday 27th May 13:00pm – 15:00pm

Session 2: Wednesday 3rd June 13:00pm – 15:00pm

Session 3: Wednesday 10th June 13:00pm – 15:00pm

Session 4: Wednesday 17th June 13:00pm – 15:00pm

### 4.3 I'm more than just 'tired' - making sense of fatigue

*Delivery: 1 x 2.5-hour in person session*

Fatigue is a silent unseen symptom of many long-term conditions, and may also be a result of stress, medications and treatment. Fatigue affects how we think, feel and participate in everyday tasks and life. Experiencing fatigue can make looking after ourselves a struggle and impact our overall wellbeing. Fatigue is difficult to explain to ourselves and others. There is no cure for fatigue but understanding it and how to manage it in the context of our lives may help improve our wellbeing. This 2.5-hour course looks at what fatigue is and why we might be experiencing it. We will explore management strategies using the expertise of lived experience, and some clinical knowledge.

Wednesday 24th June 13:00pm - 15:30pm

## 4.4 Being a Parent with a Mental Health Challenge

*Delivery: 4 x 2.5-hour in person sessions*

Every parent will experience a range of difficulties alongside the many positives and rewards of parenting, such as tiredness, self-doubt, anxiety, and no one can ever claim to be a perfect parent but parenting with mental health challenges can make the experience harder.

Within this course we will be discussing the impact that being a parent can have on people with pre-existing Mental Health Challenges and those for whom parenting has led them to experience Mental Health Challenges for the first time. This course has not been created to teach people how to parent but to discuss our Mental Health Challenges and provide support.

**Session 1: Friday 26th June 10.00am - 12.30pm**

**Session 2: Friday 3rd July 10:00am - 12:30pm**

**Session 3: Friday 10th July 10:00am - 12:30pm**

**Session 4: Friday 17th July 10:00am - 12:30pm**



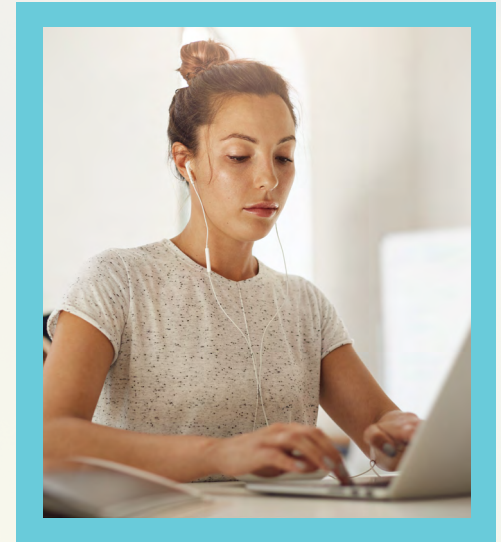
## 4.5 Managing Stress, Health & Wellbeing at Work

*Delivery: 3 x 2-hour in person sessions*

*'An estimated 37 million working days were lost due to work related stress, depression or anxiety in 2023/2024' (HSE Report 2024)*

We are excited to offer our 3-part Managing Stress, Health and Wellbeing at work course. This course is for people who are considering entering or re-entering employment and for those currently in employment. We ask that students commit to all 3 sessions to maximise the benefit from attending.

Work can be rewarding and satisfying, and suitable employment is known to enhance mental and physical health. However, we also know that thinking about returning to the workplace can be stressful and impact on our health and wellbeing. These three sessions will explore how to manage workplace stress, how to develop self-compassion and will look at practical exercises when returning to work and when in work. We will also be looking at a wellbeing passport and how to have difficult conversations in work. Being able to manage our own health and wellbeing either when preparing for work or in work by using strategies and skills which we focus on during these sessions empowers us to achieve our personal goals and improve our resilience to empower us to not only survive but thrive in the workplace.



**Session 1: Tuesday 16th June 13.00pm - 15.00pm**

**Session 2: Tuesday 23rd June 13.00pm - 15.00pm**

**Session 3: Tuesday 30th June 13.00pm - 15.00pm**



## 4.6 Experience of Addiction

*Delivery: 2 x 3-hour in person sessions*

Experience of Addiction brings together a peer and practitioner to discuss their lived experience of addiction, as well as their experience of working with people experiencing addiction challenges. This course is suitable for people living in addiction, their family members and professionals who are working to support them.

**Session 1: Thursday 9th July 10.00am - 13.00pm**

**Session 2: Thursday 16th July 10.00am - 13.00pm**



## 4.7 Discovering Self Compassion

*Delivery: 2 x 2.5-hour online sessions*

Do you find it hard to make time to look after yourself? Do you criticise yourself and treat yourself more harshly than you would other people? We welcome you to join us to learn to be more compassionate to yourself and understand that being kinder to ourselves is possible for everyone.

**Session 1: Friday 5th June 10:00am - 12:30pm**

**Session 2: Friday 12th June 10:00am - 12:30pm**



## 4.8 Recovery & Identity

*Delivery: 1 x 3-hour in person session*

When given a diagnosis or living with a physical or mental condition, the word recovery gets used a lot by the people involved in our care and support, but what does it mean to me? How do I make space for this thing called recovery in my life and what does recovery look like when I have an enduring condition that won't just heal like a broken bone? In Recovery and Identity, we'll discuss how recovery can be interwoven into our identity, explore roles, relationships and values that are impacted by our unique situations, and the steps we can take to move towards being the people we aspire to be.

Wednesday 1st July 13:30pm - 16:30pm



## 4.9 Connecting to Relationships: Understanding and Building Healthy and Supportive Relationships

*Delivery: 3 x 2.5-hour in-person sessions*

Trauma and adverse life experiences can sometimes understandably leave people feeling disconnected, less able to trust and wary of the challenges that relationships can bring. This session will provide some introductory information and opportunities for discussion on the range of interpersonal challenges people may face following trauma and adverse life events, including anxieties around future abandonment, abuse or what others think of us.

The session also provides some information and sharing of ideas on forging healthy and supportive relationships. The session draws on participants' lived experience as well as research and theory from the field of systemic and attachment theory. Attendees' reflections on their experience of relationships and their ideas about forging healthy relationships are welcomed. However, the session is not intended to replace psychological therapies.

Session 1: Tuesday 9th June 13:00pm - 15:30pm

Session 2: Tuesday 16th June 13:00pm - 15:30pm

Session 3: Tuesday 23rd June 13:00pm - 15:30pm

FOUR



## 4.10 Men and Mental Health

*Delivery: 1 x 3-hour online session*

*What does "being a man" have to do with mental health?*

Masculine stereotypes of needing to be strong can make a lot of men feel that they can't ask for help when they're struggling. Men are less likely to access therapy for problems such as anxiety, depression and even thoughts to harm themselves. Sometimes that pain can be expressed through harmful behaviours such as aggression or substance abuse. This session explores the experience of men suffering from mental health problems, the language men use when they express their difficulties and resources available to support men in maintaining their mental health.

Friday 15th May 13:00pm - 16:00pm



## 4.11 Living with Uncertainty

*Delivery: 3 x 2-hour In-person sessions*

One certainty in life is that we will all have to face uncertainty at some point. But what if those uncertainties start to impact our lives: discouraging us from making decisions; freezing us out of completing things we want to accomplish; or causing us to withdraw from friends and family?

This three-week course is designed to look at where uncertainty comes from and why it has become so prevalent in modern life. It explores how we can identify when uncertainties begin to spiral and the coping strategies that may help alleviate some of the anxiety that often accompanies uncertainty.

The course will also encourage participants to voice their own concerns in a safe environment and form strong plans to move towards a time when uncertainty does not hold any of us back from the things we want to achieve in life.

Session 1: Friday 19th June 10:00am - 12:00pm

Session 2: Friday 26th June 10:00am - 12:00pm

Session 3: Friday 3rd July 10:00am - 12:00pm

## 4.12 Care and Treatment Planning

*Delivery: 1 x 3-hour online session*

The Care and Treatment Plan course offers an excellent opportunity for anyone who would like to increase their knowledge and understanding around co-producing care and treatment plans within Cardiff and Vale mental health services.

Everyone is welcome whether you are a service user, person with lived experience, clinician, family member or carer.

The course addresses the legal rights of service users and carers, what a CTP is and isn't and the importance of CTP's being co-produced to reflect the service user's recovery goals. It includes examples of professionals and service users' experiences of CTP's and offers opportunities for discussion and reflection

This course was developed in partnership with HEIW and Social Care Wales Strategic mental health workforce plan.

Monday 15th June 10.00am - 13.00pm



## 4.13 Introduction to Eating Disorders

*Delivery: 2 x 2.5-hour in person sessions*

Living with an Eating Disorder can be incredibly challenging, leaving people feeling isolated and lonely with an intense sense of shame and guilt; not knowing where to turn or how to even begin to talk about it. But what if we can find a way to have open and honest conversations about these thoughts and feelings?

Introduction to Eating Disorders looks at:

- what Eating Disorders are.
- the challenges and barriers faced by people around seeking support.
- challenge the myths and stigma attached to eating disorders.
- explore how living with an eating disorder can affect the relationships we hold, including the relationship we have with ourselves.

An Introduction to Eating Disorders explores how to better understand what is going on, build stronger and more open relationships with ourselves and our loved ones.

**Session 1: Tuesday 26th May 13.00pm - 15.30pm**

**Session 2: Tuesday 2nd June 3.00pm - 15.30pm**



## 4.14 Under the Mask

*Delivery: 2 x 2.5-hour in person sessions*

In this 2-part course, we will delve into the concept of masking—what it is and how it affects those with neurodivergent conditions. We will explore the reasons behind why individuals feel the need to mask their true selves, the emotional and psychological impacts of this behavior, and discuss practical strategies for unmasking. Join us to gain insights into creating a more inclusive environment for everyone.

### Course 1

**Session 1: Friday 22nd May 10.00am - 13.00pm**

**Session 2: Friday 29th May 10.00am - 13.00pm**

### Course 2

**Session 1: Friday 10th July 13.00pm - 16.00pm**

**Session 2: Friday 17th July 13.00pm - 16.00pm**



## 5. Trauma focused

### 5.1 Trauma, Adversity and Mental Health:

*Introduction to Understanding and Managing the Impact of Challenging Life Experiences on Mental Health*

*Delivery: 2 x 2.5-hour in person sessions*

Trauma and adverse life experiences, including but not limited to abuse, bullying, poverty and complex bereavement, can have a significant impact on mental health. This two-part course provides information about the nature and effects trauma and adverse life experiences have on mental health. The course provides opportunities to discuss how traumatic events can influence people's mood, relationships, and overall functioning. We'll also cover strategies to help manage trauma symptoms and it's hoped that the course provides a forum for people to share their experiences of trauma recovery if they wish.

**Session 1: Monday 11th May 10:00am - 12:30pm**

**Session 2: Monday 18th May 10:00am - 12:30pm**



### 5.2 Vicarious Trauma: What Happens When We Take It Home?

*Delivery: 3 x 2.5-hour in person sessions*

Empathy is a trait we can all aspire to, but what happens when it goes too far? Vicarious trauma is something you might not have heard of, but something we can all experience. Taking on the trauma of others can happen to anyone and can have serious impact in our lives, both at work and home.

This three-week course will breakdown what vicarious trauma looks like and how it can negatively affect our daily lives. Such topics as social isolation, the breakdown of our closest relationships, and how even our physical health can be seriously affected will be explored and discussed. Followed by some coping strategies that may be used when we see these difficulties in ourselves or those that we are close to.

Through use of the creative arts, our facilitators hope to provide an interactive experience where our participants move towards a personal insight into their own experiences of vicarious trauma whilst keeping an empathetic heart.

**Session 1: Monday 22nd June 10:00am - 12:30pm**

**Session 2: Monday 29th June 10:00am - 12:30pm**

**Session 2: Monday 6th July 10:00am - 12:30pm**



## 6. Activity for Recovery

### 6.1 Connections through Activities

*Delivery: 6 x 2.5-hour in person sessions over 6 weeks.*

Engaging in different types of activity can sometimes feel daunting and overwhelming, especially if it's something new or something we haven't done in a while. It can also be incredibly rewarding. When we have positive engagement with a range of activities within our daily lives it can help us recognise our values and build better connection with others, and with ourselves. It can surprise us and motivate us in ways we wouldn't have expected. Connections through Activities explores a variety of activities through interactive conversation, taster tasks, and connecting through a shared learning experience as we discover together how daily activities can be meaningful to our lives.

**Session 1: Tuesday 12th May 13:00pm - 15:30pm**

**Session 2: Tuesday 19th May 13:00pm - 15:30pm**

**Session 3: Tuesday 26th May 13:00pm - 15:30pm**

**Session 4: Tuesday 2nd June 13:00pm - 15:30pm**

**Session 5: Tuesday 9th June 13:00pm - 15:30pm**

**Session 6: Tuesday 16th June 13:00pm - 15:30pm**



## 7. What's Next

### 7.1 Signposting and further resources

Join us for our 'What's Next' signposting and further resources course. This session offers an excellent opportunity to learn about the various initiatives at the Recovery and Wellbeing College, including new courses, additional training opportunities, and sessions focused on lived experience co-production. Participants will have the opportunity to engage with our Peer Trainers and Practitioners, gaining a deeper insight into the courses and content they offer. Furthermore, you will have the opportunity to connect with other organisations in Cardiff and Vale, exploring additional opportunities that may match your interests.

**Course 1 (Online)**

**Tuesday 20th July 11:00am - 13:00pm**

**Course 2 (In person)**

**Thursday 22nd July 12:00pm - 15:00pm**



## 8. Co-production

### 8.1 'How to' - co-production course **NEW**

*Delivery: 11 x 2.5-hour on-line sessions*

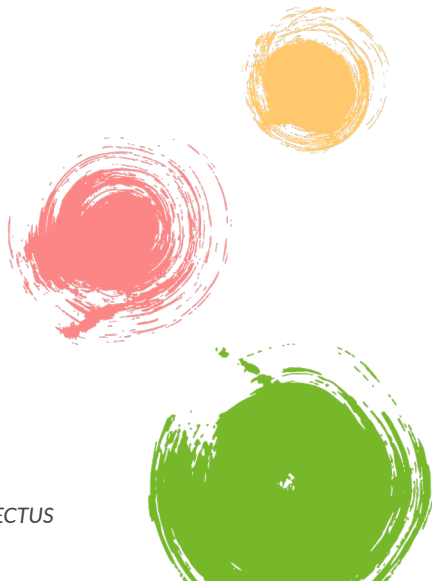
Good co-production is an approach that makes services work better for everyone. It takes skill and the ability to learn as you go. It's a way of working, not an extra task. It's something we can learn and practise together.

Join our 'How to' co-production course: a practical 2 to 11 session course, designed to help you build the confidence, values and approaches needed to work in genuine partnership. Together we explore how to create safe environments, use life experience appropriately, communicate with impact, share power, build strong decision-making relationships, and turn ideas into real, on-going action.

Through practical activities, small-group discussions, real-life scenarios, and thoughtful exercises, you'll gain a deeper understanding of what co-production truly looks like, and how you can make it a central part of your everyday work.

If you are just starting out, try the 2 core sessions which include safety, sharing life experience, impactful speaking, and being a critical friend. For those who are more involved and have an on-going commitment 7 sessions look at the skills in more depth. The final two sessions are optional for those who want to be chairing or facilitating groups or for those who are responsible for putting co-production in place in an organisation.

Monday 18th May	1.00pm - 3.30pm
Thursday 21st May	1.00pm - 3.30pm
Thursday 28th May	1.00pm - 3.30pm
Monday 1st June	1.00pm - 3.30pm
Thursday 4th June	1.00pm - 3.30pm
Monday 8th June	1.00pm - 3.30pm
Thursday 11th June	1.00pm - 3.30pm
Monday 15th June	1.00pm - 3.30pm
Thursday 18th June	1.00pm - 3.30pm
Monday 22nd June	1.00pm - 3.30pm
Thursday 25th June	1.00pm - 3.30pm



## 9. Nature Based Courses

We are pleased to offer a range of nature-based courses at the Recovery and Wellbeing College. These sessions complement our community and ward-based curriculum and provide further opportunities for students to build on connections made through previous courses.

Based at Park Lodge in Whitchurch, the programme includes two types of sessions. Gardening and Horticulture Sessions take place in our community garden, where students can grow fruit, vegetables and flowers together in a relaxed and inclusive environment.

Wellbeing in Nature Sessions offer a creative and reflective way to connect with the natural world and may particularly appeal to students who have enjoyed While We Were Walking.

### Gardening and Horticulture Sessions

From March to September, we offer weekly gardening and horticulture sessions at the Recovery College building in Whitchurch.

These sessions offer the chance to spend time outdoors, learn new skills, reconnect with others and take part in shared activity in the garden. Alongside growing fruit, vegetables and flowers, there will be other ways to get involved in the space.

### Wellbeing in Nature Sessions

These sessions explore how we experience and relate to nature, with each session including a grounding or breathing exercise facilitated by a mindfulness practitioner.

Together, we will explore five pathways to connection with nature: contact, beauty, meaning, emotion and compassion.

If you would like to register your interest, or would like more information, please contact us.

Telephone: 02921 832619

Email: [CardiffandVale.Recoverycollege@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:CardiffandVale.Recoverycollege@wales.nhs.uk)

# Recovery College Trainers

---

**Susie Boxall** - Lived Experience Strategic Lead

**Tara Robinson** - Director of Nursing Mental Health

**Georgia Howard** - Deputy Peer Training & Operational Lead

**Katya Brown** - Peer Support Lead Mental Health Clinical Board

**Paul Whittaker** - Bipolar Artist, Writer & Peer Consultant

**Key Challoner** - Specialist Mental Health Practitioner with Cardiff and Vale UHB

**Rachel Wallbank** - AHP Clinic and Team Lead for the COVID team

**Dan Miles** - Deputy Ward Manager with Mental Health Rehabilitation Services

**Rachel McAleer** - Speech and Language Therapist

**Brian Nelis** - Writer, Tutor & Peer Trainer

**Dr Megan Davis** - Practitioner Psychologist

**Alison Scrivens** - Lead Counsellor of Employee and Wellbeing service Cardiff and Vale UHB

**Rachel Martinez-Suarez** - Learning and Development lead, Cardiff and Vale Drug and Alcohol Service

**Lucie Wheeler** - Counselling Psychologist

**Bethan Henderson** - Senior Nurse Manager

**Taryn Talbott** - Senior Academic & Therapies Tutor

**Peter Miles** - Peer Trainer Cardiff and Vale UHB

**Catherine Maddock** - Senior Peer Trainer and /Ward Based Course Lead

**Kristina Spillane** - Deputy Peer Support Lead Mental Health Clinical Board

**Samantha Porter** - Peer Support Worker Cardiff & Vale UHB

**Matthew Lloyd** - Adults Programme Manager Aneurin Bevan UHB

**Dr Sarah Cavill** - Occupational Therapist Team Lead Cardiff & Vale UHB

**Charlotte Ede** - Deputy Ward Manager, Rehab Services Cardiff and Vale UHB

**Alex Congreve** - Co-production and Engagement Lead Cardiff and Vale UHB

**Penny Gripper** - Co-production Lead Powys UHB

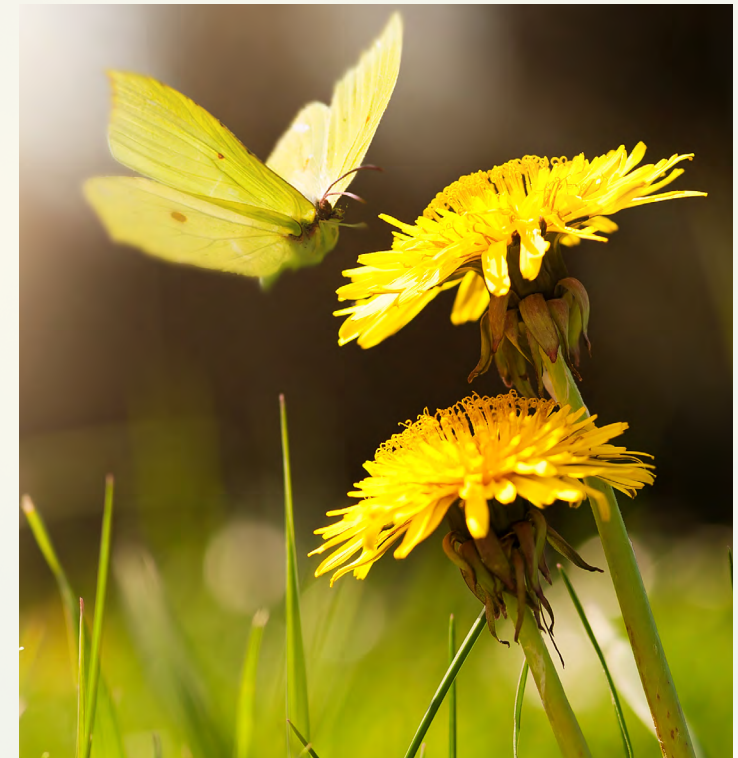
**Steven Garrett** - Associate Peer Trainer Cardiff and Vale UHB

**Georgia Wilmot** - Associate Peer Trainer Cardiff and Vale UHB

**Rob Fisher** - Associate Peer Trainer Cardiff and /Vale UHB

**Madelaine Watkins** - Clinical Nurse Specialist for Voices and Visions

**Nick Chown** - Peer Trainer Cardiff and Vale UHB



# Getting to know Cardiff and Vale Recovery & Wellbeing College

## Individual Learning Plans (ILP's)

One of the ways we support our students is through offering Individual Learning Plans. Completing an ILP involves meeting with a peer trainer and establishing self-identified goals based upon individual hopes and aspirations. This one-to-one session also offers our students the chance to identify any learning or support they may require accessing and participating in our courses. It is also a fantastic opportunity to reflect upon one's strengths and skills, ensuring students get the most out of their experiences with the Recovery College.

ILP sessions are co-produced in a non-judgemental, informal, flexible, discussion-based way, and are facilitated by peers with lived experience and knowledge.

## Introductory drop-in sessions

If you're uncertain about joining, why not visit one of our introductory sessions. We offer regular drop-in sessions at a central location in Cardiff, giving you the opportunity to experience what being part of the Recovery and Wellbeing College is like, with no obligation. Our sessions cover a range of topics that are meaningful for everyone, regardless of the challenges we may face. If you're interested in attending, please get in touch.

## Ward Based Courses

We have a growing selection of courses we can facilitate alongside clinical staff in a variety of ward-based environments. These include a range of stand-alone and multi-session courses covering broad, non-diagnosis-specific topics. Co-produced by patients and practitioners at Hafan y Coed, these courses are delivered by a practitioner alongside a person with lived experience, ensuring a balanced and collaborative approach.

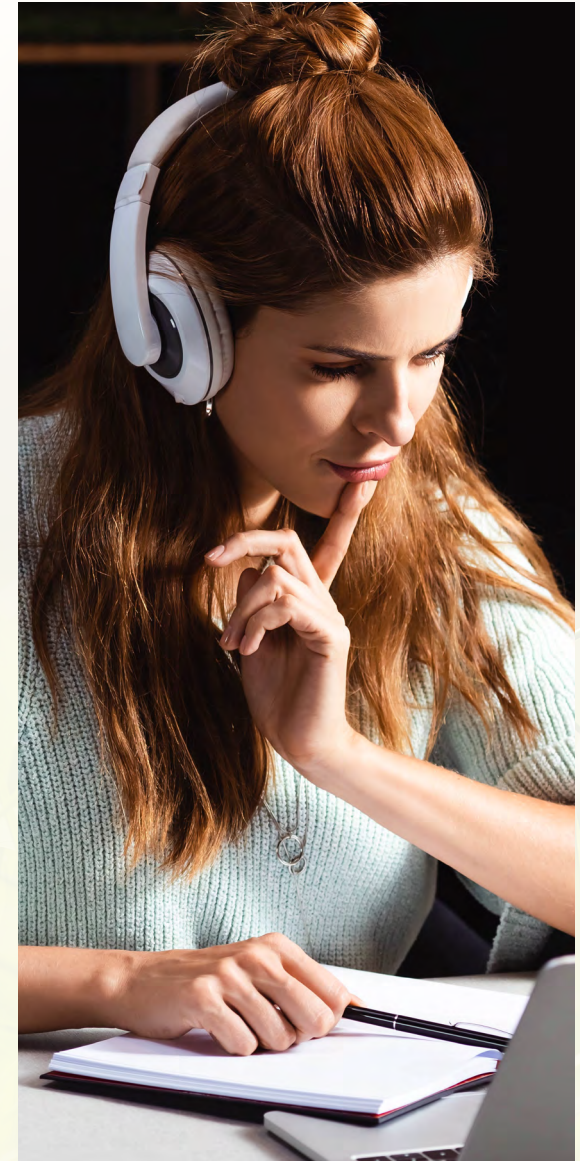
One of our recent additions is the 'Preparing for Discharge' course, which has been running fortnightly at Hafan y Coed over the past six months. This week-long course addresses patients' concerns and anxieties around discharge and life post-discharge, with follow-up sessions in the community to provide continuity of support during this transition period.

We have also trialled practical courses that build on themes covered in discussion-based groups. For example, Connection through Nature, based at Park Road Community House gardens, explores co-production and connection through a series of six arts-based sessions.

If you are interested in inviting us to deliver on your ward or would like to co-produce a session on a specific topic, please contact

[Lived.Experience.MHCB.CAV@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:Lived.Experience.MHCB.CAV@wales.nhs.uk)

For more information on Ward-Based Courses, please contact [Cardiffandvale.Recoverycollege@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:Cardiffandvale.Recoverycollege@wales.nhs.uk)



# Student Charter

## When you study at the Cardiff and the Vale Recovery & Wellbeing College

### Before you become a student:

#### You can expect us to:

- Efficiently manage your enquiries and assist you with the enrolment process if you need support
- Always communicate in a friendly and professional manner
- Provide information about our courses, workshops, prospectus and timetable

#### We expect you to:

- Ask us for clarification if you're not sure about anything

### When you enrol at the Recovery & Wellbeing College:

#### You can expect us to:

- Ask during the enrolment process if there are any issues which might make attending the course difficult for you. We will make reasonable adjustments to support your mental and physical health and ability to learn, providing you inform us at the time of enrolment
- Send you a reminder of your upcoming course

#### We expect you to:

- Complete our enrolment form and provide the relevant information such as your contact details and an emergency contact
- Agree to this Student Charter and Code of Conduct
- Tell us about any mental or physical health difficulties which could make your learning journey difficult. Communicating your needs to us is very important to enable us to support you

### Throughout your time at the Recovery & Wellbeing College:

#### You can expect us to:

- Provide a warm, professional, healthy and safe learning environment and work with you to make learning enjoyable and accessible
- Deliver high quality courses and workshops which promote recovery and social inclusion, and offer you hope, control and opportunity
- Respect your personal beliefs, life choices, faith and cultural practices and traditions making it an environment free from stigma and discrimination

- Give you time and space within and outside the classroom to provide feedback about the Recovery and Wellbeing College, its services and staff without fear of recrimination
- Address any complaints and concerns confidentially and professionally

#### We expect you to:

- Adhere to the Recovery and Wellbeing College Charter and Code of Conduct
- Ask the college staff questions if you are not sure about anything
- Attend courses on time or, if you are running late, to inform the college office
- Contact the college office if you can no longer attend a course or workshop so we can offer your place to another student
- Inform us of any difficulties or challenges that would make it difficult to attend
- Ensure you enrol. Whilst many courses are being delivered online, it is important that all students attending enrol separately. We do not allow groups of students to

attend together on one device to avoid disruption to other students' learning experience

- Be respectful of the rights of all students and staff of the college.



# Code of Conduct for all

We want to ensure that every student of the College has a positive and enriching experience of the courses they take part in.

Students do not have to disclose anything about their personal or professional life, their history or their physical/mental health unless they wish to. If anyone does share anything, we ask you to treat what is discussed with complete confidentiality.

We would also ask that everyone attending the College:

- Be punctual. No students will be admitted to online courses later than 10 minutes after the course start time
- Behaves in a responsible manner that fosters mutual respect and understanding between all members of the College
- Respects the rights, life choices, beliefs and opinions of others, making no generalisations or stereotyping
- Does not behave in any way that may be considered threatening or disruptive, or that is likely to lead to physical or emotional harm to any students or staff
- Refrains from the use of alcohol, un-prescribed medication or illegal substances
- Does not behave in a way that prevents or disrupts learning or other activities
- Does not use violent, disorderly or offensive behaviour or language
- Does not record workshops or courses by phone or other means

All of us, students and staff, have a responsibility to ensure that this code is respected and observed. Please approach a member of the College staff if you have any concerns.

If we feel that you have breached this Code of Conduct, we will discuss this with you and try and find a way forward.







Caerdydd a'r Fro  
Cardiff and Vale

## **Coleg Adfer a Lles Recovery & Wellbeing College**

 [Cardiffandvale.Recoverycollege@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:Cardiffandvale.Recoverycollege@wales.nhs.uk)

 02921 832619

 [www.cavuhb.nhs.wales/recovery-college/](http://www.cavuhb.nhs.wales/recovery-college/)



**GIG**  
CYMRU  
**NHS**  
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol  
Caerdydd a'r Fro  
Cardiff and Vale  
University Health Board