



Richdales Institute

Realising Potential

Why Choose Us

Choosing the right training organisation and course for you ... an important decision you don't want to get wrong

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The seven key reasons to choose Richdales

Whatever your goal for studying a course you will want to ensure that you are choosing one that gives you the training you need and the best possible results.

Not all courses or training organisations are equal. So how do you make sure you are making the right decision for you?

Here are 7 key areas you need to satisfy yourself on before enrolling on any course:

1. What are past students doing after gaining their qualifications?
2. What results do students achieve and what is their feedback?
3. Is the course structured in the best possible way and is the content being

taught the latest qualifications available?

4. What, if any, post graduate support is available?
5. Are the training venues and facilities offered suitable to support the level of training required?
6. Is the training organisation able to support adequate examination opportunities throughout the year and provide support during the examination process?
7. Do the teachers have the high level of expertise, training and experience to teach you?

Our aim at Richdales is quite simple.

It is to teach our students the material they need to learn so that they can:

- a. Pass their professional examinations and
- b. Be successful as practitioners, be it in practice or another environment.

How do we achieve our aim?

1. Training that supports our students' career choices

For over 20 years, Richdales Institute, has been providing Complementary Therapy courses of the highest quality so our students can acquire a skill for life and undertake a successful career in Complementary Medicine.

A Worth While Qualification

At the end of a course, successful students receive an International Therapy Examination Council (ITEC) Diploma which ensures they have a qualification that allows them to, if they wish, pursue a career in their chosen field of Complementary Medicine.

These qualifications enable our students to practice professionally in the UK and other parts of the world.

The courses and qualifications we offer are recognised by the lead bodies for the

Complementary Therapies and leading professional associations such as:

- Complementary and Natural Healthcare Council (CNHC) – the UK regulator for Complementary Therapies
- General Council for Massage Therapies (GCMT)
- Aromatherapy Council (AC) (formerly Aromatherapy Organisations Council - AOC)
- The Reflexology Forum
- Complementary Therapists Association (CThA)
- Association of Reflexologists (AoR)
- Sports Massage Association (SMA)

The recognised professional qualifications we offer **meet and exceed** the recognised national and occupation standards.

What do our students do after qualifying?

Most of our students come to Richdales to receive the highest level of training they can which will support them to achieve a

qualification that allows them to pursue a career in Complementary Medicine.

Our students follow exciting career paths after qualifying such as:

- Setting up in a professional practice in the UK and all over the world. We have students in Europe, Australia, Asia and North America.
- Working professionally in a variety of environments such as the NHS, corporate environments, wellbeing centres and spas, complementary medicine clinics and centres.
- Being inspired to go on to train as Chiropractors, Osteopaths, Physiotherapists, Occupational Therapists and other health related services.
- Setting up their own teaching schools as near as London to as far away as in Malaysia
- Lecturing at national conferences and publishing article leading industry journals.

"I'm now almost qualified as a Personal Training Specialist and working in a physiotherapy clinic applying exercise for injury rehabilitation, preventative healthcare

etc. So Richdales definitely set me up for a career in health and wellness!” Steph –
Massage student

2. Outstanding results that surpass the ITEC national average

We are very proud of the results our students have received over the past 20 years. Our students have successfully passed thousands of ITEC Examinations, Awards and Units.

Failure is not an option

Over this time we have never had a student fail any of the following:

- ITEC Theory Examination in Anatomy, Physiology & Pathology.
- ITEC Theory or Practical Examination in Massage.
- ITEC Theory or Practical Examination in Aromatherapy.
- ITEC Theory or Practical Examination in Indian Head Massage.

- ITEC Theory or Practical Examination in Sports Massage.
- ITEC Theory in Reflexology.

Over 80% of our students achieve a credit or distinction

Since the government launched the new syllabus in September 2009 we have had over 550 ITEC Examinations (by 24 March 2013) take place in that time over 80% of our students achieve a credit or distinction.

“The teaching was outstanding. I learnt a whole new skill while still in a full-time job and really enjoyed the experience.” Christine Gudge, student

“It’s a good place to learn” – Maria, student

3. At the forefront of providing students with the best course structures and content with the very latest qualifications

As one of the largest providers of Professional ITEC and CPD Courses in London we ensure we remain small enough to care about each of our students as individuals.

“The teaching methods are thorough ... and students receive individual attention and feedback” - Janine

We are highly regarded for providing courses that exceed national occupation standards and have often found that the content we have been teaching eventually gets included in the new raised standards. Of course, by which time we have continued to raise our standards.

Always the Most Up To Date Qualifications Available

It is disappointing for us to know that there are training providers out there that do not keep up to date with the latest qualifications and syllabuses. Unfortunately, we regularly have situations where someone contacts us having received training from another provider only to find out that they have not been taught the latest qualifications available.

In these circumstances students may find themselves in the situation where they may not be eligible to join the state regulator or will have to undertake further courses to be able to continue to practice.

Optimum Course Structure for Maximum Learning

Our 20 years' experience of providing the highest quality training courses in the field of

Complementary Medicine has enabled us to develop course structures that provide our students with the very best in learning opportunities.

This is one of many reasons that our students are able to excel.

We value our students' feedback and we continue to review and refine our courses based on their feedback. It is of course unrealistic to expect it to be the best structure for everyone but it does work for most people.

“It is a very professional standard, everyone is so helpful and supportive” - Lisa

Each of our courses is structured to run over the most beneficial timeframe that allows our students to maximise their learning experience. The structure supports the students need to develop both practical and theoretical skills.

Many of our students are working full-time and have to fit their study around work and many other commitments. We do our best to structure courses to alleviate the stress of taking on studying by offering course that run over weekends and allow sufficient time

between each weekend for studying and practice.

Why Not an Intensive or Fast Track Course?

The need to practice is one of the main reasons we do not offer courses that are labelled 'Intensive' or 'Fast Track'. The courses we offer, such as Massage, Reflexology and Aromatherapy all require students to learn and develop practical skills.

Our students need to learn, practice and then return to class and have their progress checked by their teacher. All this takes time.

Having trained thousands of students over the past 20 years, our experience gives us a real understanding of the time required to teach the material on the courses we provide.

At Richdales we pride ourselves on the thoroughness of our teaching. We ensure that our teachers go through all the training material with our students and that students aren't simply sent away with material and told to read it for themselves – that's not learning by our standards.

"Excellent handouts. Thorough explanation and detail" – Sarah, student

Learning and Mastering the Basics

We believe that it is vital for our students to learn and master the basic skills. That's why our course content is not padded out with information that is not relevant to them at that time.

While it may sound good that a student will learn advanced massage techniques as part of a massage course, in practice the student is much better positioned to be learning and mastering the basics of massage. Having mastered the basics there is ample opportunity to enhance one's skills.

At Richdales, we run regular training workshops on different topics such as Advanced Massage Techniques to enable students to progress and develop their skills.

Our qualified students, as members of the post graduate association receive a discount on these course fees.

Technology to Enhance Learning Not Reduce Costs

The technology available today allows us an opportunity to enhance the learning experience for our students. And we embrace this opportunity.

However, we don't believe that it replaces the teaching experience and we do not use online teaching to replace classroom teaching or to reduce our costs.

For example, the area students find most challenging is Anatomy & Physiology. We have produced a series of videos by our teachers of material that students can preview prior to and after attending the weekend sessions.

This gives them an opportunity to go through any areas they are not sure of in person in the traditional classroom setting with their teacher.

While videos provide an insight into how to perform techniques that students must learn and master, at Richdales we believe that our students need individual demonstration and feedback. Learning a practical skill to a professional level requires this level of

training and can't be learnt simply from a video.

Meet other students

Due to the range of Complementary Therapy courses we run, students have the opportunity to meet with students learning other disciplines e.g. Massage students meet with Reflexology students and Sports Massage students. They get to share their learning and practical experiences.

"The teaching is very thorough and you are given a lots of support throughout this course" – Margaretta, massage student

4. Support even after you qualify

At Richdales we believe that learning doesn't stop once a student qualifies.

It is important for our students continue to be supported even after they qualify. That's why we provide our qualified students with free membership to our Post Graduate Association.

The Post Graduate Association gives students many benefits. These include:

- Sitting in on any teaching weekend of the course they have studied to deepen their understanding
- Receiving regular updates of the latest research developments in Complementary Medicine. This helps students develop their skills accordingly. It enables them to share information with their patients and build their practice. It also provides them with knowledge that may help them develop new business ideas e.g. in a corporate or healthcare environment.

- Job opportunities are made available to them when they become available.
- Continuing their education with us with our CPD workshops which helps develop and enhance their skills and taking advantage of the discounted course fees they will receive.

"I have studied Reflexology, Holistic Massage and Indian Head Massage with Richdales Institute, and thoroughly enjoyed it! The courses were consistently of a high standard, encompassed a comprehensive range of associated subjects, and more than met the ITEC examination requirements. In addition to all of this the classes were fun, the tutors professional and enthusiastic, and I looked forward to being with people of the same interests at the study weekends." Diane Probst, student

5. First class venues and facilities to support your learning experience

All our courses are held at prestigious and professional venues in London. These venues are used to host international conferences and are fully equipped with the latest technology and audio visual aids.

Over the years we have received a significant amount of feedback from our students, including students that have studied elsewhere prior to being with us. Here are some significant differences they have told us about.

At Richdales:

- Couches are provided – so no carrying your own to class.
- Rooms are set up prior to you arriving
- Text books are provided as part of your Course Fees. You also receive a comprehensive set of Course Notes.
- You do not have to ‘man a stand’ to promote Richdales as a requirement of the course (under the guise of undertaking case studies!).
- You can wear relaxed comfortable clothing throughout the course – so no outlaying on expensive branded uniform. (For the Internal and ITEC Examinations students are required to wear a uniform of black shoes, black socks, black trousers and a white therapist’s jacket).

At Richdales, we offer our students a Virtual Learning Environment, something we are very proud of. This provides our students with access to presentations for our teaching weekends which can be previewed and reviewed. Additional material and videos are also available to students.

6. Courses run throughout the year for your advantage

Demand for places on our courses is high. We usually have a waiting list for a place on our courses.

This in itself gives students the security of knowing that they will not find that a course they have booked on has been cancelled due to low attendance numbers.

Due to the number of courses and students Richdales has we are able to hold up to 8 ITEC Examinations a year.

A Flexible Approach

Our students benefit significantly from our ability to arrange for them to sit their examinations at a specific time after the end of their course to give them the opportunity to perform at their best level. They don’t have to wait 3 – 6 months to sit their exams.

However, things do happen in life over a 6 – 12 month period. Should a student be unable to sit their scheduled examination, then due to our regular course schedule we usually have another examination date 6 weeks later!

We are also able to organise the Examinations to be held on a weekend or Friday evening. So our students don't have to take time off work to sit their examinations.

Minimising the Stress of Examinations

Our students do not have to attend external Examination centres as we are able to hold them at our centre. Our students benefit from taking their exams in familiar and comfortable surroundings rather than in an unfamiliar environment.

You're Not Left Alone

We believe in always providing our students with the highest level of support to help them succeed.

This holds true even during their examinations. We ensure that the Principal Tutor and/or Courses Director are always

present at the ITEC Examinations to deal with any issues that may arise on the day with the external and ITEC Examiner.

"Tutors were very easy going and made everyone feel at ease from the off" – Andre, student

7. Teachers with the expertise, training and experience to help you succeed

Our teachers are hand-picked and selected for their knowledge and passion.

"All the tutors are passionate and knowledgeable about what they are teaching" – Sophie, student

All Diploma Course teachers have an adult training qualification.

However, it isn't enough to just have knowledge. Our teachers have demonstrated their knowledge in their individual disciplines as well as how to teach – 2 very different skill sets.

Our teachers have been students to a high degree themselves and know how students feel. Most of our teachers have a BSc or MSC level qualification.

“Very professional approach and both lecturers are friendly with warm touch and very helpful” – Martina, student

As Practitioners themselves, all our teachers are committed to life-long learning and are constantly continuing to develop in their disciplines.

Our students benefit from the ‘clinical pearls’ from their teachers that can help them deal with real clients and experiences. Our students are not being taught by teachers who are not practising and giving information gleaned from a book.

The Best Teacher for Each Topic

At Richdales, we believe in providing our students with the best teacher for each part of their course.

Just because a teacher is excellent at teaching massage doesn’t mean they will be excellent at teaching Anatomy & Physiology.

For each topic with a course, we assign the best teacher to it depending upon their skill set (and passion) for that topic.

“I’d recommend your teaching staff for sure”
– David, student

We Teach To A Standard Not A Time!

Our students receive the highest standard of teaching possible.

“Very friendly and skilful – exactly what’s needed. Thank you very much” – Dr George, student

Next steps

You can learn more about our courses from our website

www.richdales.co.uk

Or request a copy of our prospectus from our website or by giving us a call:

020 8900 9005

If you are ready to enrol now then either download the enrolment forms from our website or call us and we will guide you through the process.

We look forward to helping you to realise your potential!