



EQUINE FACILITATED TRAINING PROGRAMMES

Athena Herd Foundation is a not for profit community interest company located in West Kent, UK offering the best possible learning and development experience in a unique location alongside special people and animals that are at the heart of what we do. We are rapidly evolving into one of the largest Training Providers in this field and are a pioneering national and international specialist:

- **Level 2 Certificate in Equine Facilitated Interactions (Equine Facilitated Learning or Equine Facilitated Psychotherapy depending on qualifications).**

This can be taken as a standalone Certificate or as Module One of the full Equine Facilitated Practitioner Diploma.

The Certificate consists of four days of on-site learning. Alternatively, this can be taken as an online Interactive Distance Learning option over approx. seven weeks. Participants will be able to really start to understand, develop and deliver work as an independent practitioner and build on the practical skills of Equine Interaction work with our support (depending on a learners background and qualifications this can either be referred to as Equine Facilitated Learning or Equine Therapy (*i.e. Occupational Therapy, Counselling and, if appropriate, Equine Facilitated Psychotherapy*), provided one has the appropriate supporting qualifications). Participants that successfully complete this training programme will receive the ACCPH (Accredited Counsellors, Coaches, Psychotherapists and Hypnotherapists) Accredited Level 2 Certificate in Equine Facilitated Interactions.

On successful completion of the Certificate, participants have the option to either stop at the Level 2 Certificate or continue with the remaining two Modules to attain the full ACCPH Accredited Equine Facilitated Practitioner Diploma (places are guaranteed on completion of the Certificate), see below.

On completion of the Certificate, learners are eligible to become an accredited Member of the ACCPH who has an organisational relationship with Westminster Indemnity and once an accredited member, participants can access insurance directly through the ACCPH website: accph.org.uk. Alternatively, the Athena Herd Foundation has a Balens Affinity Scheme in place for its members and international relationships with insurers in different jurisdictions.

- **Level 4 Equine Facilitated Practitioner Diploma**

On successful completion of the ACCPH Accredited Level 2 Certificate in Equine Facilitated Interactions, participants can continue with and complete the ACCPH (Accredited Counsellors, Coaches, Psychotherapists and Hypnotherapists) Accredited Equine Facilitated Practitioner Diploma training as follows:



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- (i) **Module Two:** a supervised self-learning section, which includes three practical case-studies involving a minimum of ten sessions overall plus two facilitated online action learning sets and personal research; and
- (ii) **Module Three:** interactive distance learning online sessions bringing the business and risk mitigation aspects into the learning during Module Two with the option of one extra online practice client session (Full Distance Learning Option) or Two Days onsite (blend of both on-line and on-site learning);

Generally, depending on start dates, we expect the full Equine Facilitated Practitioner Diploma, inclusive of Module One, Module Two and Module Three to be completed over a period of around six months. Please note that the Athena Herd team will consider requests to either defer Modules Two and Three and join them at a later stage after completion of the Certificate on a case by case basis to attain the ACCPH Accredited Level 4 Equine Facilitated Practitioner Diploma. The Athena Herd Foundation can also consider prior learning and consider a recognition of Prior Learning Request against Module Three.

Athena Herd Foundation CIC

Jennifer and Brent Geach established the Athena in 2014 developing a unique, interactive learning and development centre based at their 16th century farmhouse in West Kent. Bringing the concept of the horses health and wellbeing being at the heart of everything they do with the Athena Herd Foundation horses living as naturally as possible on a barefoot track system. It is a special place for both humans and animals with many UK and international visitors enjoying the unique Athena Herd Foundation blend of professionally delivered learning and development in the most tranquil of settings. Limited accommodation is available on site to further enhance the Athena Herd Foundation experience.

The Athena Herd Foundation horses are an established mixed herd, living as naturally as possible on a barefoot track system since 2014. We believe that this environment supports their optimum physical and emotional health and wellbeing and enables us to provide you with the best possible learning and development experience.

What makes our training programmes unique

Jennifer and Brent are passionate not only about providing a genuine and authentic learning experience but also about the quality and transparency of the training programmes on offer. The Athena Herd Foundation is a not for profit organisation and its focus is on supporting and encouraging individual learning and development with training programmes designed specifically for our participants who are, with our herd, at the heart of what we do.

Can you train with us: we are very much focussed on supporting learners develop their own unique practice or business no matter their background. We welcome applications from learners whether in a people supporting profession such as Coaching/Leadership, Counselling, Psychotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Teachers, Social Workers, Support



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Workers, or therapeutic space or already working with horses or plain and simply you would like to learn more about Equine Interactions.

At the outset, we made a conscious decision to deliver training programmes of a very high standard at affordable prices. Unlike other training providers in this field there is no continuing annual membership fee or subscription. There is no obligation on participants to continue supervision with us, unless you would like to. We are also passionate about you choosing whether you want to work on your own or with other professionals. We are truly passionate about building a lifetime support network and opportunities that extend beyond the completion of our Training Programmes. Many of our growing network are actively developing and running CPD events for our community, acting as Mentors on some of our Training Programmes as well as supporting and hosting in situ (nationally and internationally).

We have ensured that our programmes are affordable and this is a reflection of our passion in inspiring others to want to learn with us and develop their own skills and brand bringing the benefits to their own clients and networks. We run free online networking and offer very low cost CPD events.

The Athena Herd Foundation Team

Jennifer and Brent are passionate about building a unique long-term supportive global community comprising people with diverse yet complementary global expertise but very importantly that share the same authentic ethos. The growing Athena Herd Foundation team has over 30 years of extensive horse, training, coaching, advisory, business, legal, equitation and counselling experience which ensures that course participants gain a wide range of new and complementary skills and tools to help them develop as Practitioners.

We have a growing world class team with significant collective expertise in delivering meaningful and insightful learning and therapeutic support around horses which makes us well placed to deliver quality training. This, in addition to the way our accredited training has been developed and our herd of horses are kept at the Athena Herd Foundation, is why we believe our training programmes are unique - providing participants with an amazing 360 degree learning and development opportunity.

External validation/certification of our training programmes: it is not just us at the Athena Herd Foundation that think our workshops, certificate and diploma courses are fantastic! As you would expect of professionally delivered training, all courses in our portfolio have been externally accredited by the ACCPH and those who successfully complete our certificate and diploma courses become eligible to join the ACCPH as an accredited member in their own right. Furthermore, the ACCPH has an organisational relationship with Westminster Indemnity and once an accredited member, participants can access insurance directly through the ACCPH website accph.org.uk. Likewise, the Athena Herd Foundation has negotiated bespoke insurance policies and rates with Balens. Athena Herd Foundation CIC is an Organisational Member of the ACCPH and BACP (British Association for Counsellors and Psychotherapy) and Athena Herd Foundation also runs courses validated for CPD. International insurance providers recognise our Training Programmes and we have contacts across the World.



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Passionate about standards and regulation:

IQA: Jennifer Geach and Graeme Green are Independent Quality Assurers of assessment processes and practice.

Professional Standards Authority (“PSA”): the Athena Herd Foundation is the first animal focussed practitioner register to have met the Service User test to hold an Accredited Practitioner Register regulated by the PSA (this is the same government-backed scheme aimed at protecting the public by helping them choose health and care professionals who are competent and trustworthy held by, for example, the bacp for Counsellors and Psychotherapists. On completion of the ACCPH Athena Herd Foundation Equine Facilitated Practitioner Diploma, provided learners meet the requirements of the Register and are resident in the UK, year one to be on this register and we hope by the summer of 2022, display the PSA logo, is included in the current Module Two and Three pricing.

Melanie Venables, Head of Accreditation, Professional Standards Authority said:

“We were pleased to conduct a preliminary assessment of Athena Herd’s register against Standard One of the Standards for Accredited Registers. Following this being provisionally met, we have welcomed their application for a full assessment against Standards Two to Eight.”



Universities: the Athena Herd Foundation is currently talking to and designing University backed higher level qualifications;

Ofqual: the Athena Herd Foundation has been and continues to work through the process to become an Awarding Organisation for qualifications in this space.

Recent testimonials and feedback:

“exceeded my expectations in a good way. I’ve experienced so much profound change and emotions and I didn’t expect that”

“I’ve been in love with the place since the moment I arrived”

“Thanks for everything no words seem enough. I’m just so grateful for this opportunity and for the learning experience I’ve had. Can’t wait to continue my journey with you. Thank you so much for your time and patience and for pushing me when I needed it. I will carry this with me for a long time.”



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Find out more or reserve a place

If you are interested in signing up to either of our Athena Herd Foundation ACCPH Accredited Equine Facilitated Training Programmes, please email us at <mailto:info@athenaherd.org>. We can arrange an opportunity for an initial chat to discuss your individual learning requirements. We would need you to complete our application form before we are able to consider you for a place. On offer of a place from the Athena Herd Foundation on a specific Training Programme, payment of the non-refundable deposit is required to secure your place. Payment of the balance is then required before the start of the Training Programme.

.....the small print for 2023...[Prices have consciously not been increased from 2022]

Please note that the following pricing shall apply to all places booked for our Training Programmes starting 01 January 2023 until 31 December 2023:

A non-refundable deposit of GBP 300.00 is payable at the time that the Athena Herd Foundation offers a place onto a Certificate in Equine Facilitated Interactions Training Programme.

Places are limited. We limit our learning cohorts to ensure that we maximise your individual learning experience. In most circumstances there will be at least two Athena Herd Foundation trainers on each training programme.

Diploma

TOTAL GBP3,659.00 (to be clear, please note that the balance after payment of the Certificate would be **GBP2,100.00**).

Certificate only

TOTAL GBP1,559.00 (inclusive non-refundable deposit GBP300.00).

Thank YOU!