



North West College of Homoeopathy

**Professional Course in Homoeopathic Medicine
(Part-time)**

Prospectus

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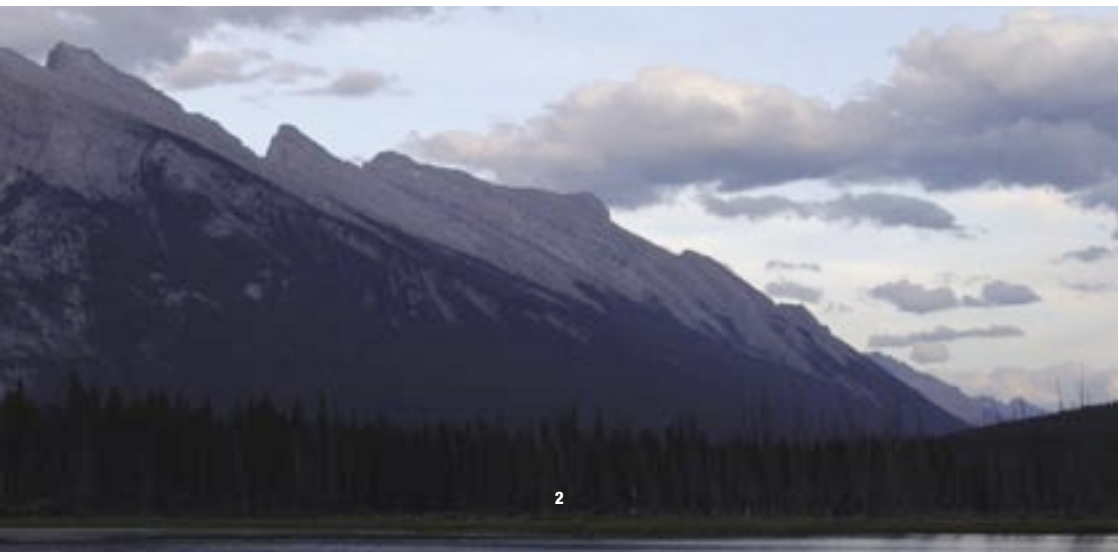


Welcome to North West College of Homoeopathy

Thank you for your interest in the North West College of Homoeopathy. We hope that you find the information in our prospectus helpful and informative.

Our aim is to ensure that students who enrol with us receive a training which matches the highest standards set by our profession. Our course is designed to take the student through the principles of classical homoeopathic thinking to their practical application, as well as introducing the new and exciting developments taking place in the world of Homoeopathy today.

The college has recently itself undergone new and exciting changes, and has now evolved into a collective of shareholders, an innovative and sustainable model for the future of Homoeopathic education. We are governed by a Board and all students who enrol become shareholders.



Our Mission Statement

The mission of the North West College of Homoeopathy is to further the provision of homoeopathic medicine for the benefit of the homoeopathic and wider community. Our intention is to provide an environment which facilitates shared learning and opportunities for personal and professional growth, and to acknowledge the dynamic nature of life and its relationship to health.

About the college logo

The chalice is a symbol of the mind centre, or anja charka, and the motto Aude Sapere was Samuel Hahnemann's own, meaning Dare to know or Dare to be wise.



Structure and Requirements

The course runs for four-years, on a part-time basis. Direct teaching is delivered on one weekend each month for eleven months of the year (September – July). The first year of the course is designed to introduce students to Homoeopathic Science. For those who wish to have an introduction and sound foundation to homoeopathic knowledge but do not wish to become professional homoeopaths there is a Certificate of Completion for this Foundation Course. Students are continually assessed throughout the course with regular feedback on written academic work and practical aspects of training.

Admission requirements

The academic standard and structure of the course is similar to that of a first degree. Students should be over the age of 21 before starting the course. Applicants should be able to apply themselves to consistent study, be able to cultivate an open and tolerant mind, and be interested in people. They should seek to understand the nature of life and the world as it is. No previous medical training is required. Applicants will normally be expected to attend the College for interview. Many of our students have not studied academically for some time and there is often a ‘bedding in’ period when study skills are sharpened up. Two of the main ingredients for success are enthusiasm and self-motivation and these can take you a long way.

Year	Practice	Theory	150 hours of assessed clinical observation.
1	Reflective and Personal & Professional Development (PPD) work started. Acute clinic attendance and acute case taking started.	Regular assessed written projects giving a strong foundation of homoeopathic knowledge.	
2	Assessed clinical observation started in college clinics. PPD Triad work, acute case taking, practical sessions to work towards starting own cases in year 3.	Broader insight into homoeopathic science, continual assessments with an increasingly practical content.	
3	One-to-one supervised own case work starts. Practical work on building and marketing your practice. Live Case taking and analysis at college weekend.	Philosophy deepened further and integrated with practical sessions and varied case analysis work to build your own style.	
4	Own case work continued. Greater emphasis on the more practical side of homoeopathic science to prepare for qualification and practice.	Pulling together all that is learnt theoretically and practically in the first three years to gain a deeper level of understanding.	

Min. 10 supervised own cases

The story so far

The North West College of Homoeopathy was established in 1984 by Ernest Roberts. He had a passion for the healing power of this alternative form of healthcare. Ernest trained as a Homoeopath and inspired others by setting up a successful practice and by teaching first aid courses. The courses were so well received that people wanted more, and so the demand for Homeopathic education grew. The North West College was founded to provide professional training to a standard recognised by the European and United Kingdom Registering Bodies.

The number of practitioners and students has grown substantially since

1984. There are a large number of qualified graduates from the college who form part of the core lecture team at the NWCH and who are now running successful practices themselves and who have also been part of the development of practices in many parts of the country; teaching and using their clinical skills in the UK and abroad.

The college office is based at Houldsworth Mill in Reddish, Stockport. Here there is space for clinical facilities, an office and space to hold a lending library and a pharmacy. We also use the Manchester Metropolitan University Didsbury site for teaching purposes.

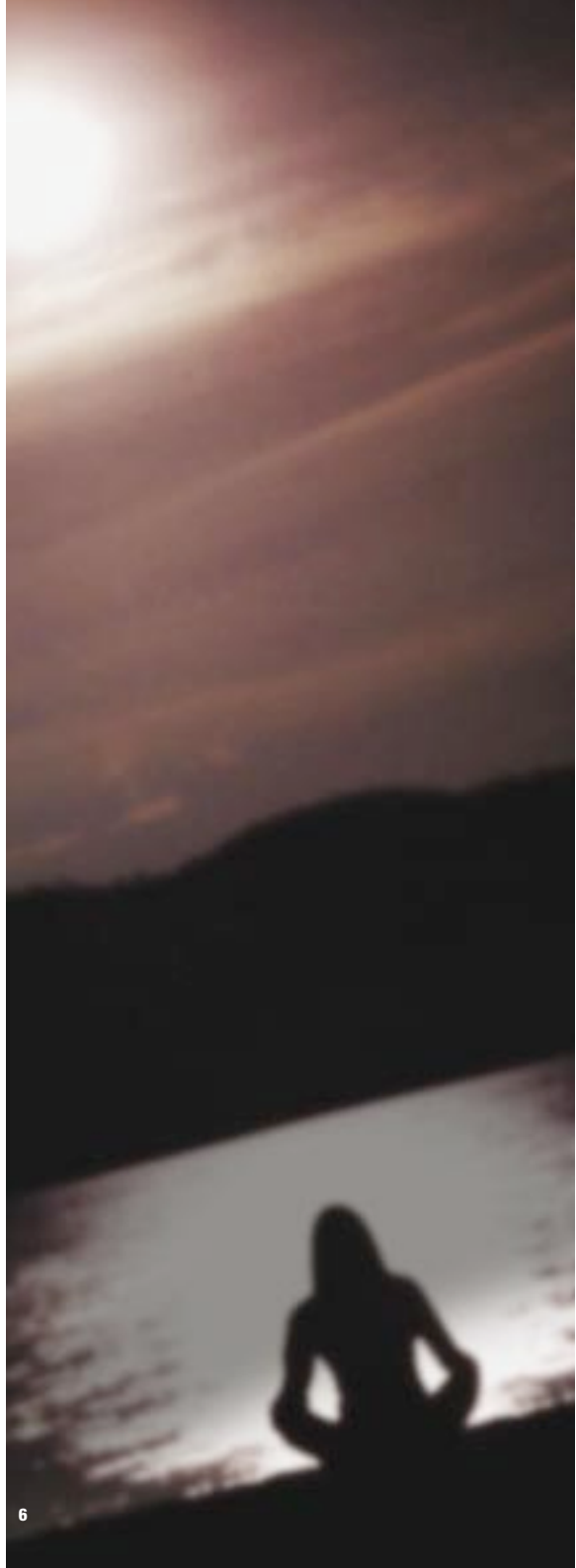
As the college has grown we have needed more teachers, tutors and supervisors. Many of our graduates, particularly those with teaching experience, have continued to be involved with the college in this capacity and are recruited according to experience and expertise.

Why Study With Us?

The NWCH offers a well-organised, responsive, student centred classical training in homoeopathy. We enjoy the benefits of experienced and committed teaching staff and have a well developed strong network of regional support groups to encourage and promote learning in-between college weekends.

We also have a great team of trained supervisors who provide person-centred, case based and developmental supervision to students. The college runs a pioneering clinical training programme using the foundations of our well established and successful teaching clinics.

At the heart of the college is our collective approach. We are at the cutting edge of Homoeopathic education today; whilst many colleges have sadly had to close their doors, the NWCH has adapted and evolved into a dynamic and exciting opportunity for the development of homoeopathic education and for hands-on personal ownership of the process and provision. This means that there are regular feedback sessions for students to discuss their needs and shape their learning.



Creative Teaching

Our core teaching staff members are among the most experienced lecturers teaching at homoeopathic colleges. We are also fortunate in being able to attract high-profile guest speakers to the teaching weekends. You can see profiles of the individual lecturers on our website (www.nwch.co.uk). In addition, many of our regular tutors and supervisors are past students of the college who really understand the student experience.

During the teaching weekends we enable students to learn in a number of different ways including:

- Lectures
- Workshops and small group work
- Practical training: pairs, triads and group discussion
- Live cases and Video cases
- Tutorials

Teaching content is comprised of:

- Materia Medica (Homoeopathic Remedies) 30%
- Homoeopathic Philosophy 25%
- HB&P (Human Biology and Pathology) 15%
- PPD (Personal and Professional Development) 10%
- Repertory, tutorials and casework 20%



Friendly Informal Setting

Lectures take place in modern facilities in the Didsbury Campus of Manchester Metropolitan University. We have been settled at the Didsbury Campus for more than 15 years now. The classrooms are spacious and comfortable and lecturers have access to computer and video/dvd facilities to help them deliver their presentations.

Students have access to a range of resources, such as the bookshop and library. There is a canteen onsite where refreshments and meals are available. Over the road there are the botanical gardens to explore and the village of Didsbury.

Big on Variety, Small Enough to Care

Over 250 Homoeopaths have received their licence to practice from us over the years and there is a great atmosphere at the teaching weekends when so many students from different year groups gather together to learn.

We place emphasis on offering quality and variety in our teaching, efficient administration, student support and responsiveness. We like to get to know our students as individuals and encourage communication between year groups and staff.

Continual Assessment

The academic work that students are required to complete is assessed by a variety of methods, balanced between traditional methods of assessment and self-assessment/evaluation. The work is designed to be stimulating, creative and challenging.

There are no exams at the end of each year - instead, students receive regular and extensive feedback on their work through our continual assessment programme.

This involves the collation of a portfolio which includes:

- Written project work and short assignments.
- Self assessment sheets from your clinical training which logs your progress.
- Detailed bi-annual reports from trained college supervisors once you take on your own patients in years three and four.
- Constructive feedback and a report when you are observed taking a consultation.

Clinical Experience At Busy Live Clinics

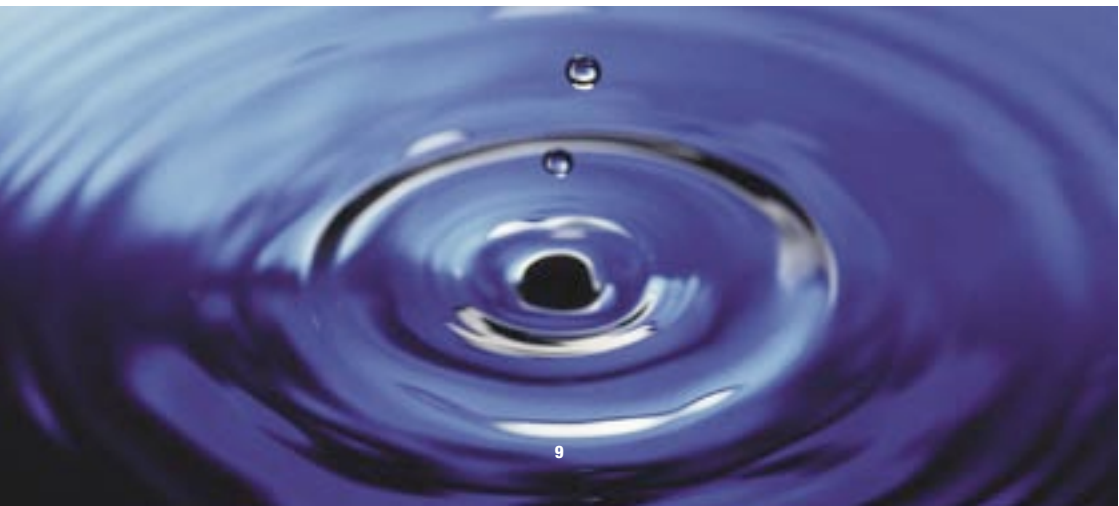
Students currently need to complete 150 hours of clinic participation in total, during years two, three and four. In liaison with our clinical team we will also support you to complete some of your clinical observation closer to where you live.

One of the great strengths of the NWCH is its teaching clinics. The clinics attract a typical wide variety of patients from the local community and further afield. The clinic is a key focus of your education. Clinical experience involves up to four

students 'sitting in' in a clinic with a practitioner. These are busy days, usually six hours in length, where there is a chance to discuss cases with peers and the practitioner. Students generally find the experience demanding but extremely worthwhile, highlighting your strengths and areas for further development.

Direct clinical experience exposes the student to different approaches and theoretical applications current in Homoeopathy today, as well as a variety of practitioners. Our pioneering 'block booking' of clinic spaces allows students to stay with a case from the start, observing and assessing homoeopathic progress live and for themselves, making optimum use of their time and learning. This approach gives students valuable case management experience as well as learning the practicalities of running a practice as a business.

We also have arrangements with homoeopaths in various parts of the North West and beyond to enable you to broaden your learning and to make connections and networks in your own area.



One To One Supervision Programme

During years three and four, when you take responsibility for process treating ten or more patients of your own, you will work with two different supervisors, progressing from one case Supervisor to the next, developing your skills as you go.

All clinical work stems from the development of the 'Reflective Practitioner', so whilst you are under supervision you are looking closely at your own progress and development. The idea is that students become very self-aware which enables them to perceive the 'centre of the case'.

This is an intense and sustained process, working individually with supervisors and clinicians. All NWCH supervisors are trained in person-centred supervision. 'Person-centred supervision' is based on the key theme of mutuality, which means that there is a shared responsibility for the learning process. The learning style is a combination of supervisor-facilitated learning and student-directed learning. However, for this process to occur there needs to be an environment of empathy, respect and congruence. The NWCH recognises that supervision training is a critical part of the student experience.

Medical Science included in the Syllabus

This is an essential component of the overall training programme. It provides a perspective on medical practice. This training enables you to understand your patient's medical history of orthodox treatment and therefore practice homoeopathy safely, competently and appropriately. It also opens avenues for discussion and co-operation with other medical practitioners.

The study of human biology and pathology consists of a comprehensive review of the systems of the body, their function and dysfunction. Wherever possible this is related to the homoeopathic repertories (reference books which give details of symptoms and remedies). The studies include allopathic drug effects, how to interpret their impact on the patient and their effect on homoeopathic treatment. Emphasis is placed on a safe approach in practice.

Access To A Range Of Student Support Services

“NWCH practices what it preaches. I had a problem, I was listened to, was asked to explain further, and then was offered clear ways forward and all the while being encouraged to take responsibility for my own learning. Very Homoeopathic.”

NWCH Licentiate

Student Support Team

The support team is there to provide support and advice about non-academic issues that might interfere with a student's training. These may be personal, financial, etc.

Members of the team can also help with issues arising from the personal development content of the course, often directing students to further sources of help. There is always a member of the student support team available on site throughout every college weekend.

Regional Support Groups

All students are encouraged to attend monthly meetings close to where they live, between college weekends. These meetings may be facilitated by a tutor but are often student-led. Students can choose which group they join.

Student Representatives

One or two elected representatives from each year group act as a means of liaison between staff and the year group. This ensures a two-way flow of information about general college matters. Formal meetings are held once every two months.

Administration Team

Practical issues such as clinic information and bookings, assessment procedures, payments etc. can be dealt with through the college office.

Self-Awareness and Reflection

Personal and Professional Development starts in year one, and evolves in years two and three as students prepare for and start on their 'own case' work.

Reflection on learning and development is encouraged from the beginning and is part of the assessment process at every point of contact with patients.

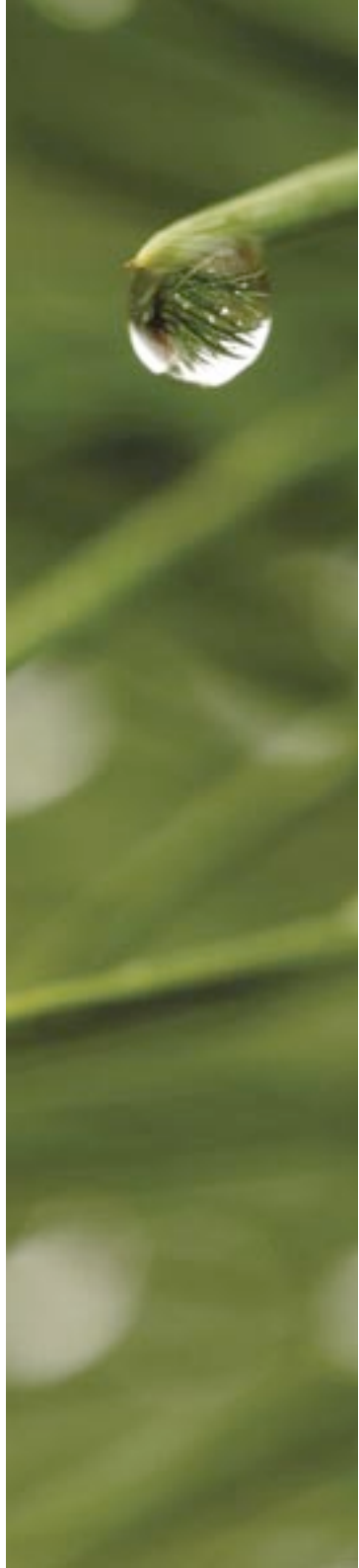
Working as a homoeopath involves all aspects of your being. Therefore, personal development is viewed as an ongoing process.

Embarking on a course to become a homoeopath is to begin a transformation of the way you perceive, think and relate. Your spirit, values and feelings are crucial because your healing work involves you in touching all these levels of people's lives.

The skills being developed in this area are self-reflection, careful observation and aspiring to become free from prejudice. In the safe, confidential and mutually supportive environment of the year group, students develop their practice of active listening, appropriate response and self-observation, which form the basis of the 'case taking' role of the homoeopath.

The diagnosis we make is individualised to each particular patient. This makes our treatment and advice much more effective. It also respects the uniqueness of each individual. It means that each person we treat is also our teacher, offering us new insights into the richness and diversity of our healing art.

Exploring our own nature makes us more self-aware; self-awareness is necessary for clearly perceiving the patient and for facilitating the creation of the "sacred space" in the consultation, within which healing can begin.



Recognised Professional Qualification

Your professional qualification is recognised by the Society of Homeopaths, the Alliance of Registered Homeopaths and the Homeopathic Medical Association.



These registering bodies are all involved in the work of CORH (The Council of Organisations Registering Homeopaths) which is in the process of setting standards for a single legal register of homeopaths.

Ongoing Support After Qualifying

For many years NWCH students have had the option to undertake a further year of customised post-licence study at our college, now known as our Transition To Practice Year.

The official registering bodies expect all homeopaths to show evidence of CPD (Continuing Professional Development). We are now able to offer an exciting CPD programme to all practising homeopaths to help them fulfil these requirements.

“The North West College of Homoeopathy provides a thorough, coherent and inspiring training in homoeopathy. The sense of a supportive community is one of its hallmarks, a community that continues long after the student has graduated.”

Janet Snowdon, Guest Lecturer

Finding Out More

Taster Days

We offer prospective students an opportunity to come and visit us during a college teaching weekend to get a feel for the college, to experience a lecture with the first year group and to have lunch and a chat with students.

We provide an introduction to the college, a chance to browse and purchase books in the bookshop and finally a 'question and answer' session. Many students have found this a useful way to decide whether the North West College of Homoeopathy fits their training requirements, and our first year students enjoy sharing their experiences.

Check out the News section of the college website (www.nwch.co.uk) or call 0161 975 6205 for details of forthcoming open days or to book your free place.

Taster Courses

This course provides an excellent introduction, if you are looking to find out more before commencing training to become a homeopath.

The North West College runs regular 8-week taster courses (usually one evening a week or at a weekend) that are designed to teach you the basic principles of homoeopathy.

The course enables you to:

- Explore some alternative ideas about health and disease.
- Discover the basic ideas behind homoeopathy.
- Learn how to use homoeopathy for simple, minor first aid situations.

Each session involves a mixture of theory and practice, with opportunities for discussion. By the end of the course you should have a general understanding of how homoeopathy works and feel confident enough to use a range of remedies for everyday and first aid prescribing.

Interviews

An interview is necessary to join our course. It gives you the chance to discuss aspects of the course on a one-to-one basis and gives us the chance to meet you. Should we mutually agree that our course is right for you, you will be given advice about what you can do to prepare for your training.

To arrange an interview simply send in your completed application form and we will arrange a convenient time to meet with you. Please note we can make alternative arrangements for a phone interview if you are applying from overseas.



North West College of Homoeopathy (Manchester) Ltd

Houldsworth Mill Business & Arts Centre

Houldsworth Street

Reddish

Stockport

SK5 6DA

Tel: 0161 975 6205

www.nwch.co.uk

E-mail: info@nwch.co.uk

Company registration no. XXXXXXXX

VAT no. XXXXXXXX

