

#EDUCATING
for Excellence

PALLIATIVE AND END OF LIFE CARE EDUCATION PROGRAMME



**October to
December 2026**

stfrancis.org.uk



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WELCOME

to our Palliative and End of Life Care (PEoLC) Education Brochure for Oct to Dec 2026



The aim of this brochure is to detail palliative and end of life care education available during Oct to Dec 2026.

It is not exhaustive and there are likely to be additional sessions which will be advertised on our website, via social media and promotional emails to our subscribers.

The programme is open to all health and social care professionals who provide palliative and/or end of life care to patients in any setting. We offer a structured programme made up of short sessions, half days and full study days.

The training is based on the End of Life Care Core Skills Education and Training Framework (2017), Ambitions for Palliative and End of Life Care (2021), NICE Guidelines - Care of dying adults in the last days of life (2015) and the End of Life Care Strategy (2008).

The training also encompasses the five core competencies that are outlined in the National Core Competencies for End of Life Care (2009) which were developed to support the End of Life Strategy. These are:

- The Overarching Principles of Palliative and End of Life Care
- Communication Skills
- Assessment and Care Planning
- Symptom Management, Comfort and Well-being
- Advance Care Planning

We are constantly reviewing the training we should be offering – please contact us if there are sessions you would like to see or if you'd like further details of what might be coming up.

Please contact the Education team via: education@stfrancis.org.uk and we can discuss this with you.

To help meet the specific Palliative and End of Life Care needs of your organisation we also offer bespoke training.

Please contact us if you would like to learn more

[Join our Education and Learning Mailing List](#)

See our [website](#) for full details about each event

See our events on the Herts and West Essex Training Hub

<https://www.hwetraininghub.org.uk/>

Follow us on [Facebook](#) for News, Events, Palliative Care and Rehabilitation Insights.

MEND THE GAP - PALLIATIVE CARE EDUCATION



E-LEARNING

Some staff may wish to pursue their own updates through e-learning. Some recognised sites are listed below.



Current Learning in Palliative Care. (CLiP)

CLiP is a free, flexible learning series in palliative care supplied in partnership between St Oswald's Hospice and Hospice UK. It is a case-based programme of self-learning workshops that take about 15 mins - ideal for busy healthcare professionals.

<https://www.stoswaldsuk.org/how-we-help/we-educate/education/resources/what-is-clip/clip-adults-worksheets/>

Do Not Attempt Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation.

The Resuscitation Council (UK) website takes you through the issues around Do Not Attempt CPR and the importance for the patient and yourself as a professional, including the excellent guidance produced with the British Medical Council and the Royal College of Nursing. It also highlights the use of the ReSPECT process to document individual recommendations for patients.

<https://www.resus.org.uk/dnacpr/>

Hospice UK and Dying Matters

Hospice UK's Dying Matters campaign is working to create an open culture in which everyone is comfortable talking about death, dying and grief. The website hosts many useful resources including leaflets, information sheets and short films.

<https://www.hospiceuk.org/our-campaigns/dying-matters>

End of Life Care for All (E-elca)

A range of modules that are nationally recognised and very useful. Some modules are open to everyone - to access the whole library of online materials you will need to register.

<https://www.e-lfh.org.uk/programmes/end-of-life-care/>

Marie Curie

The Palliative Care Knowledge Zone offers expert information and support to staff to enable them to deliver the best possible care for people living with a terminal illness.

<https://www.mariecurie.org.uk/professionals>

National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) Clinical Knowledge Summaries

The NICE CKS service provides primary care practitioners with a readily accessible summary of the current evidence base and practical guidance on best practice.

<http://cks.nice.org.uk>

BOOKING & ATTENDANCE

Attendance at any of the education sessions detailed in this brochure is open to all staff, irrespective of their employer/place of work. Booking of places by individuals onto any of the courses is dependent on the individual having their team leader/manager's agreement.

Book on via [Accessplanit](#) or via The Hospice of St Francis [website](#)

Please note there may be a booking fee or small charge for selected courses.

Our short courses are free to HoSF staff and volunteers.

When it comes to course payment on the booking form, step through to the end of the process and the system will apply 100% discount to the booking fee.

There is a cost implication for our long courses and so we do ask staff to seek funding.

Please contact us if you have any queries at education@stfrancis.org.uk

NOTE: Please ensure you have permission from your line manager before booking – thank you!



WELLBEING SERIES



Wednesday

16

September

12.30pm-1.30pm

Gut Health - the Key to Wellbeing

Explore the important role that gut health plays in overall wellbeing. Attendees will learn how the gut can influence everything from energy and mood to immunity and joint pain, and why symptoms don't always show up where the problem starts

Tuesday

10

November

12.30pm-1.30pm

Strength Training - putting Theory into Practice

Are you looking for inspiration to prioritise your own physical well-being, with practical, realistic tools to build movement into your daily life? If so this could be the session for you!

Tuesday

12

January

12.30pm-1.30pm

Introduction to Reflexology

Explore the benefits of reflexology, how it can support with reducing anxiety and promoting relaxation, along with some practical techniques to demonstrate key relaxation points!



Sessions held at
The Hospice of St Francis
HP4 3GW

Introduction to De-Cluttering

Overwhelmed and not sure where to start with tackling your home full of stuff?

Explore a friendly, non-judgemental approach to help you stay on top of the stuff you really love and create systems to maintain control!

Thursday

15

October

12.30pm-1.30pm

'Hospice Connect' Christmas Theme with Entertainment

(Staff and Volunteers only)

Ever feel like you're stuck in your own busy corner of the hospice? Hospice Connect is our brand-new quarterly get-together designed to change just that!

Wednesday

2

December

12.30pm-1.30pm

Dress Yourself Happy!

Personal style is not about following trends, but rather about figuring out what makes you feel like you. Come along to this inspiring session and leave with a new-found confidence!

Thursday

25

February

12.30pm-1.30pm

SIGN ME UP!

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INTERMEDIATE COMMUNICATION SKILLS

**Having Sensitive Conversations within the
Context of Palliative Care**

Alternative Dates:

Tuesday 12th January 2027

Thursday

8

October

9.30am-4pm



Online



£25

Presenters:

Manisha Cook

Lecturer Practitioner/
Physiotherapist

Claire Nicell

Joint Head of Education
and Learning



Open to all health and social care staff who have sensitive and complex conversations and have already attended an introductory communication skills course.

Course Aims:

To explore strategies for dealing with sensitive and complex conversations so these can be applied to practice

Objectives:

- To identify what scenarios are difficult in practice
- To review communication skills available in your toolkit
- To state some strategies for handling different types of sensitive conversations
- To reflect on some communication scenarios in practice (video/ case study/ goldfish bowl)

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AHP BITESIZE

Building Resilience – a Toolbox Approach to Mastering the Art of Self-Care

Wednesday
14
October
12pm - 13.30pm



Online

Presenters:  **£10**

Manisha Cook
Lecturer Practitioner/
Specialist Physiotherapist

Amy Smissen
Lecturer Practitioner/
Occupational Therapist



This session is aimed at AHP's but could be useful for all clinicians, non-clinicians and volunteers who are involved in supporting people with palliative and end of life care needs.

Course Aims:

By the end of the session, we aim for you to have a greater level of confidence in your ability to manage the physical, emotional and cognitive demands of your role

Objectives:

- To understand what is meant by 'resilience' and the common characteristics of resilient people
- To be able to recognise potential triggers impacting your wellbeing at work
- To leave with a toolbox of 3-4 practical self-care strategies for managing your wellbeing at work
- To have access to a list of resources to support your wellbeing in the workplace and beyond

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Thursday

15

October

12.30pm - 1.30pm



In Person:
HP4 3GW



Offered on a
donation basis

Presenter:

Christina Ferraz
Founder of CHF Decluttering Ltd



Everyone welcome whether staff member, volunteer, friend, colleague or member of the public who can join us in-person.

Course Aims:

Explore decluttering in the digital, physical and financial space with mental health, sustainability and neurodiversity at the core

Objectives:

- To have an understanding of the world of decluttering
- To recognise your individual environment and your own unique approach to decluttering
- To acknowledge your own relationship with the “stuff” around you
- To leave with some practical tips for decluttering your physical, digital and financial spaces

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INTRODUCTION TO PALLIATIVE CARE for Non-Clinicians

Tuesday
20
October
9.30am-1pm



Online



Free

Presenter:

Amy Smissen
Lecturer Practitioner/
Occupational Therapist



All non-clinical staff and volunteers who want an introduction to palliative care. This could be a receptionist in a GP surgery, a fundraiser for a Hospice or anyone looking to learn more about palliative care and what it offers people.

Course Aims:

To gain an overview of palliative care

Objectives:

- Define palliative care and end of life care
- Who can benefit from palliative care and when?
- Describe what a good death looks like
- State the benefits of planning ahead and honest conversations

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END OF LIFE ANTICIPATORY MEDICATIONS

Wednesday
21
October
1pm-2.30pm



Online



Free

Presenters:

Claire Nicell

Joint Head of Education
and Learning

Hannah Smith

Community Team Lead



All clinicians who support end of life patients and want to learn more about the anticipatory medications.

May be suitable for community staff, care home staff and GPs.

Course Aims:

To provide an overview about how, when and why you might use end of life anticipatory medications

Objectives:

- To identify when to prescribe and administer end of life care drugs (including a syringe pump)
- To summarise the elements of a holistic approach to symptom control
- To state common end of life care drugs used
- To be familiar with the paperwork used in HWE (principles will be the same elsewhere- but details may differ slightly)
- To provide space to ask questions and concerns re using these drugs

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Thursday
22
October
9am-4pm

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ReSPECT/ DNACPR Competency Day (to become ReSPECT/DNACPR writers)



In Person:
HP4 3GW

Presenters:

Claire Nicell
Joint Head of
Education and
Learning



Free

Manisha Cook
Lecturer Practitioner /
Physiotherapist

ReSPECT Recommended Summary Plan for Emergency Care and Treatment	
Full name	
Date of birth	
Address	
NHS/CHI/Health and care number	
1. This plan belongs to:	
Preferred name	
Date completed	
The ReSPECT process starts with conversations between a person and a healthcare professional. The ReSPECT form is a clinical record of agreed recommendations. It is not a legally binding document.	
2. Shared understanding of my health and current condition	
Summary of relevant information for this plan including diagnoses and relevant personal circumstances:	
Details of other relevant care planning documents and where to find them (e.g. Advance or Anticipatory Care Plan; Advance Decision to Refuse Treatment or Advance Directive; Emergency plan for the carer):	
I have a legal welfare proxy in place (e.g. registered welfare attorney, person with parental responsibility) - if yes provide details in Section B ☐ Yes ☐ No	
3. What matters to me in decisions about my treatment and care in an emergency	
Living as long as possible matters most to me	Quality of life and comfort matters most to me
What I most value:	What I most fear / wish to avoid:

Open to senior (non-medical) clinicians who wish to undertake the Hertfordshire ReSPECT/DNACPR competencies to enable them to complete ReSPECT forms (including decision around DNACPR).

NOTE: Due to the nature of this course and the inclusion of role play, this course will only run with 4-5 delegates per course

Course Aims:

To equip delegates with the knowledge, skills and confidence to complete ReSPECT/DNACPR conversations and paperwork

Objectives:

- To identify the context and legality around ReSPECT/ DNACPR conversations
- To identify good practice about ways to initiate and have conversations around ReSPECT/ DNACPR
- To participate in a ReSPECT/ DNACPR role play and receive feedback
- To identify how to complete a ReSPECT form effectively

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TIER 2 OLIVER MCGOWAN 1 DAY WORKSHOP

This 1-day course consists of a half day session on learning disability and a half day session on autism

Note: This session is in addition to the Oliver McGowan e-learning and is mandatory for Health and Social care staff

Alternative Date:

Wednesday 3rd March 2027

Thursday
5
November
9.30am-4pm



Spring Room



£50 pp

Presenters:

1Stop Training Ltd

Accredited Oliver McGowan training provider.

Delivered by experts with lived experience and a facilitating co-trainer working with 1Stop Training Ltd

Who should attend?

All Clinicians



Course Content

- Opportunity to ask questions to autistic individuals and people with a learning disability
- Handouts, practice tools and resources
- Approved Oliver McGowan Mandatory Training Certificate of Completion

By completing the right Tier of the Oliver McGowan Mandatory Training, you will be meeting the requirements of the Health and Care Act 2022 and the CQC

Course Aims:

Oliver's training supports the NHS Long Term Workforce Plan ambition by upskilling the wider health and care workforce to provide appropriately adjusted care for people with a learning disability and autistic people to reduce health inequality.

After attending this course, learners will be able to:

- Give an overview of both learning disability and autism
- Explain the protections provided by the legal framework and guidance on best practice for learning disability and autism
- Reflect on own and organisational practice
- Action plan for required changes in practice

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Tuesday

10

November

12.30pm - 1.30pm

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LUNCHTIME WELLBEING SERIES

Strength Training - Putting Theory into Practice

Presenter:

Erica Carter
Personal Trainer and Running Coach



In Person:
HP4 3GW



Offered on a
donation basis



Are you looking for some inspiration to prioritise your own physical well-being, with practical, realistic tools to build movement into your daily life?

Everyone welcome whether staff member, volunteer, friend, colleague or member of the public who can join us in-person.

Aim:

To raise awareness of the role physical activity plays in supporting your wellbeing and resilience, and to provide practical, realistic strategies for incorporating a variety of movement into your lives.

Objectives:

- Identify the recommended physical activity guidelines for adults and recognise how these can be adapted to fit shift patterns and demanding schedules
- Reflect on your own current activity levels and how this affects your wellbeing both at work/voluntary role and outside of this
- Try out simple, low-cost exercises or movement breaks that can be done at work or home with minimal time or equipment
- To identify at least one personal action or goal to support your own activity levels going forward

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Tuesday
17
November
1pm - 2.30pm

The Hospice of St Francis **INTRODUCTION to ADVANCE CARE PLANNING (ACP) (including ReSPECT)**



Online



FREE

Presenter:

Claire Nicell
Joint Head of Education and
Learning

All health and social care staff who are involved with talking with others about their future wishes and want to increase their knowledge and confidence in this subject.

Open to all but might be particularly suitable for care home and community staff.

Course Aims:

To provide an overview of what advance care planning involves and how to go about having such conversations

Objectives:

- To identify what advance care planning (ACP) is and why and when it might be useful
- To state the legality of different documents associated with advance care planning
- To consider approaches to advance care planning discussions
- To consider areas of importance that individuals may like to explore within ACP discussions
- To become familiar with the ReSPECT form (used across Hertfordshire)

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CORE PRINCIPLES OF PALLIATIVE REHABILITATION - An AHP Approach

Thursday

19

November

9.30am - 12.30pm



Online

Presenters: £ £10

Manisha Cook

Lecturer Practitioner/
Specialist Physiotherapist

Amy Smissen

Lecturer Practitioner/
Occupational Therapist



Open to all clinicians seeking to develop their understanding of palliative rehabilitation. This foundation-level course explores how rehabilitation principles can be applied effectively across healthcare, hospice, community and social care settings. If you work with people living with life-limiting illnesses, frailty or long-term conditions, this session will equip you with practical knowledge, skills and confidence to support individuals with palliative care needs.

Course Aims:

We aim to share the foundations of palliative rehabilitation including holistic assessment, self-management and goal setting. We hope you will then be able to apply these skills in your own healthcare setting.

Objectives:

- To expand knowledge and understanding of the vision and ambitions of palliative rehabilitation based on most recent evidence
- To increase understanding of the benefits of holistic assessment, self-management and goal setting strategies, in all clinical and healthcare settings
- To provide an opportunity to reflect on your own and your services ability to deliver palliative rehabilitation effectively

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MASTERCLASS

Frailty and Ageing in a Global Context

Tuesday

24

November

12.00pm - 1.30pm



Online



£15

Presenter:

Nicola Payne
Senior Lecturer and Course Lead for
frailty programmes at Nottingham
Trent University



Open to all clinicians who are
interested in learning and developing
their knowledgebase on frailty

Course Aims:

This masterclass will explore ageing from a global perspective, focusing on how cultural, societal and health inequalities shape experiences of frailty and end-of-life care, and how these insights can inform culturally responsive practice within the UK

Objectives:

- Describe key global trends in ageing, including life expectancy and inequality
- Explain the concept of Disability-Adjusted Life Years (DALYs) and its relevance to frailty
- Recognise how culture influences experiences of ageing, frailty and end-of-life care
- Reflect on how global perspectives can inform culturally sensitive care in UK practice
- Identify opportunities to address health inequalities in frailty and palliative care

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PALLIATIVE AND END OF LIFE CARE

An Awareness Day for Clinicians

Thursday
26
November
9.30am-4pm



Online



Free

Presenters:

Manisha Cook
Lecturer Practitioner/
Physiotherapist

Amy Smissen
Lecturer Practitioner/
Occupational Therapist



Open to all clinicians in a health or social care profession wishing to gain a basic awareness about palliative and end of life care. This course may also be suitable for care home staff, social care providers, allied health professionals and anyone with an interest in palliative care.

Course Aims:

To enhance participant awareness and understanding of palliative and end of life care. To develop confidence in supporting individuals who have a palliative diagnosis or who are approaching end of life.

Objectives:

- To identify when individuals are deteriorating
- To recognise dying and the care individuals need
- To state the importance of effective communication
- To describe approaches to future planning
- To state what normal grief looks like and what help bereaved individuals may need

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COMPASSIONATE COMMUNICATION SKILLS

Foundation Level

Alternative Dates:
Wednesday 3rd March 2027

Tuesday
8
December
9.30am-1pm



Online



Free

Presenters:

Claire Nicell

Joint Head of Education and Learning

Manisha Cook

Lecturer Practitioner/ Specialist Physiotherapist



Open to all internal and external
patient facing staff & volunteers

Whether your role involves you
working with patients, families or
bereaved individuals, this course
will help consider the importance
of empathy within communication
and reflect on possible responses
and skills when faced with
conversations requiring an
element of compassion.

Course Aims:

To introduce participants to the concept of compassionate
communication so this can be applied to practice

Objectives:

- To identify communication challenges that you face in your role
- To describe and give examples of what helps and hinders effective communication
- To reflect on possible responses/skills
- To pinpoint personal resilience techniques

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APPROACHING ANNIVERSARIES for Those who are Bereaved

Thursday
10
December
1pm-2pm



Online



Free

Presenters:

Claire Nicell
Joint Head of
Education and
Learning

Alison Parsons
Bereavement Support
Co-ordinator



Anyone who would like some practical suggestions about approaching anniversaries for those who are bereaved. This may be suitable for health and social care professionals / volunteers who support bereaved individuals and individuals approaching this from a personal perspective.

Course Aims:

To share some practical suggestions and advice about ways to navigate anniversaries for those who are bereaved

Objectives:

- Identify why anniversaries can be a challenge
- Refresh understanding of what normal grief looks like
- Identify approaches that may be helpful or less helpful when approaching anniversaries and special occasions
- Explore some practical strategies/ ideas that individuals may find helpful when approaching anniversaries and special occasions

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AHP BITESIZE

Outcome Measures and Goal Setting in Palliative Rehabilitation

Tuesday
15
December
12pm - 13.30pm

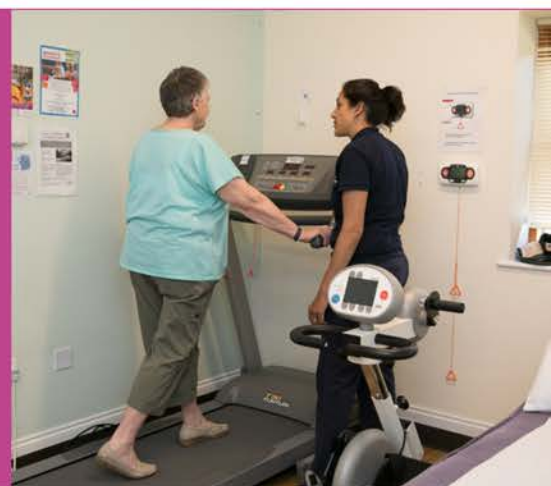


Online

Presenters:  **£10**

Manisha Cook
Lecturer Practitioner/
Specialist Physiotherapist

Amy Smissen
Lecturer Practitioner/
Occupational Therapist



Open to all AHP and Wellbeing practitioners with an interest in palliative care, looking to learn how to implement outcome measures in their practice and support patients to set therapeutic goals.

The principles of this session can be applied to any health care setting.

Course Aims:

To explore the use of outcome measures and goal setting in palliative rehabilitation.

Objectives:

- To understand the role and importance of outcome measures in palliative rehabilitation and for people living with life-limiting conditions.
- To explore a range of outcome measures recommended by Hospice UK and their application in practice.
- To understand the value of collaborative goal setting and how it can empower patients to achieve meaningful, person-centred outcomes.
- To develop confidence in supporting patients to set realistic, achievable, and meaningful goals that reflect their priorities, values, and changing needs.

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PALLIATIVE CARE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (PCDP)

Dates for 2027 to be confirmed

Intermediate Level (Tier 2)



Rennie Grove Peace

Delivered by: The Hospice of St Francis (HOSF) and Rennie Grove Peace Hospice Care (RGPHC)

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Nurses, Allied Health Professionals (AHP's) and Associate Practitioners who provide palliative care and rehabilitation and wish to develop a good foundation in palliative care clinical practice.

We recommend this course for Band 5/6 practitioners.

AUTUMN 2027 DATES

(2 ½ hours each afternoon 1.30-4pm)

Course dates to be confirmed.

Register your interest today and we'll let you know as soon as dates are released.

COURSE STRUCTURE

Each of the 8 days includes a recommended 4 hours of self-directed learning (from provided materials) in the morning (although this study can be done at any time during the week if it suits your schedule better.) The afternoon comprises a 2 ½ hour interactive and reflective session with experienced palliative care clinicians. The course will be facilitated online.

CONTENT:

This 8 day programme offers a learning opportunity to enable trained staff in all settings to develop and sustain their ability to care for people and support people who are living with life threatening illness.

It's core content is based on Health Education England 2019 (HEE) End of Life Care Learning Outcomes and includes a focus on:

- Communication Skills
- Assessment and Care Planning - Holistic Person Centred Care
- Symptom Management – including care in the last days of life
- Advance Care Planning
- Underpinning Values of Palliative Care
- Knowledge about Palliative Care - including loss and bereavement
- Leadership and collaboration – Quality of Life and Living Well with Life Limiting Conditions
- Developing Self and others - looking at resilience
- Improving Quality and Developing Practice - completing a worked-based action plan



STUDENT OUTCOMES:

- Pre and post course outcome framework completion
- Accessing recommended learning and attendance at reflective webinars
- Two pieces of reflection
- Completion and presentation of a work-based action plan
- Completion of a personal achievement summary

"I have shared this course already with my colleagues and advised how amazing it has been. It has in fact been added to our listed courses that we plan to send a member of staff every time!"
(Course attendee 2026)

REGISTER YOUR INTEREST

For enquiries and to register, please contact education@stfrancis.org.uk

Cost: £300 per delegate for this 8 day course

Administrated by:

The Hospice of St Francis
Spring Garden Lane, Northchurch,
Berkhamsted, Herts HP4 3GW
Tel: 01442 869550



STFRANCIS.ORG.UK

Reg. Charity No. 280825

ADVANCED COMMUNICATION SKILLS TRAINING

Delivered by the
HERTS AND BEDS PALLIATIVE AND END OF LIFE CARE EDUCATION GROUP

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

All experienced Health and Social Care Professionals (Band 6 & above) who have difficult conversations as part of their everyday role and have had previous communication skills training.

WHEN IS THE COURSE?

6 & 7 Jan 2027
9 & 10 Feb 2027
10 & 11 Mar 2027
7 & 8 Apr 2027
6 & 7 May 2027
8 & 9 Jun 2027
14 & 15 Jul 2027

14 & 15 Sep 2027
12 & 13 Oct 2027
10 & 11 Nov 2027
8 & 9 Dec 2027

Delivered virtually via Zoom

View dates online at
stfrancis.org.uk/clinicians

CONTENT:

Based on the connected model using professional actors, this 2-day course will provide delegates with key communication strategies for managing difficult conversations that they experience in their role: Small groups of (maximum 6) delegates practice scenarios with the actors playing different roles (such as the patient or family member). These scenarios may include:

- Handling strong emotions
- Difficult Conversations with patients and families
- Giving significant news to the patient and or family member
- Introducing sensitive topics (such as DNACPR conversations)

Delegates are expected to have completed Foundation & Intermediate level communication skills training at least 3-6 months prior to enrolling for the Advanced course.

WHAT HAVE OUR DELEGATES SAID?

"This course really makes you think differently about the way you can communicate with patients/families and gives you strategies and techniques that you might have never thought about before. Furthermore, it teaches you about cues the patient gives which can make such a difference to the whole consultation. I found the course extremely beneficial and interactive"

"This course was highly recommended to me. Everyone who has been on it raves about how amazing it because it is 'so real' and relevant to what I do every day"



HOW DO I BOOK?

For enquiries and to book onto the course, please contact education@stfrancis.org.uk Fee £600 per delegate for the 2-day course. Fees are required on application. Previous delegates have been able to obtain funding from external organisations, particularly those from hospice and community nursing settings.

Please ask education@stfrancis.org.uk for more details or visit our website stfrancis.org.uk/clinicians

Administered by:

The Hospice of St Francis
Spring Garden Lane, Northchurch,
Berkhamsted, Herts HP4 3GW
Tel: 01442 869550

EUROPEAN CERTIFICATE in Essential Palliative Care

The majority of healthcare professionals working in hospitals and the community look after patients with palliative care needs on a regular basis.

The European Certificate in Essential Palliative Care (ECEPC) is aimed at helping professionals consolidate and develop their palliative care confidence and expertise. The course is designed to meet the needs of healthcare professionals new to specialist palliative care services who wish to establish a strong foundation of knowledge on which to build specialist knowledge and skills.

- **Spring 2027:**
Monday 12 April
(Course Launch)
Wednesday 16 June
(Assessment Day)
- **Autumn 2027:**
Monday 6 September
(Course Launch)
Wednesday 10 November
(Assessment Day)

The course is a 9-week home learning, multi-professional programme, covering:

What is palliative care and who is it for?
Patients with emergency conditions
Breaking bad news to patients and families
Common ethical issues

Symptom issues in palliative care
Patients in the last 48 hours of life
Bereavement and support

The course was developed at Princess Alice Hospice in 2001. It is now offered at a range of sites both nationally and internationally – including The Hospice of St Francis, Berkhamsted.

The course runs twice a year and the fee is £600

For the date of the next course and to register please visit our [website](https://www.stfrancis.org.uk/education).

Suitable for medical and nursing staff, paramedics, allied health professionals including nursing and physician associates from acute, community and hospice care settings

FIND OUT MORE!

Scan the QR
code or visit:



stfrancis.org.uk/education

E: education@stfrancis.org.uk



INFORMATION FOR PROSPECTIVE CANDIDATES

Candidates are invited to an online introductory evening with The Hospice of St Francis

COURSE RESOURCE

Candidates will receive an extensive Course Handbook containing the core text material. Candidates will also have access to the Princess Alice Hospice virtual learning environment – learningzone.pah.org.uk and be allocated a facilitator who will support them through their portfolio submission and help with the assessment element of the course. The facilitators are experienced practitioners in specialist palliative care, who will be available by email or telephone. Note: There are no formal teaching sessions, however, support sessions are offered

ASSESSMENT

Candidates undertake three different forms of assessment:

Portfolio – Based on a patient the candidate has cared for with palliative care needs, the 2,500 word portfolio should include the effect it has on both personal and professional level. It should be supported by literature and demonstrate the learning will influence future care.

Exam – There will be a one hour examination, which will include short true / false questions covering the principles of palliative care explored in the Course Handbook. It will also include four questions on common opioid dose conversions.

Practical / verbal (Viva) – This is a short verbal assessment exploring the knowledge and skills developed during the course.

A pass is required in each of the elements.

HOW LONG IS THE COURSE?

This is a 9-week home learning course. Please note virtual attendance on assessment day is mandatory. It is recommended you carry out around 50 hours personal study, but this will vary depending on previous experience of palliative care.

WHERE?

The course is co-ordinated by Princess Alice Hospice in Esher. The Hertfordshire local site is run by The Hospice of St Francis, Berkhamsted.

FUNDING

External funding opportunities may be available for Hospice and Hertfordshire community staff.

Please contact education@stfrancis.org.uk for more information.

REGISTER

To register with The Hospice of St Francis or for more information contact: 01442 869550 / education@stfrancis.org.uk
For information about other sites, please contact 01372 461858
europeanecertificate@pah.org.uk



On successful completion of the assessments, candidates will be awarded the Princess Alice Hospice European Certificate in Essential Palliative Care.