

What to Expect from Your 30-Minute Online Consultation

Jessica Shepherd Counselling

Before We Meet

Technical Setup:

- You'll receive a Zoom link via email 24 hours before our consultation
- Please test your camera and microphone beforehand
- Find a quiet, private space where you won't be interrupted
- Have a glass of water nearby and make yourself comfortable

No Preparation Required:

- There's no homework or forms to complete beforehand
- Just come as you are this is your time to explore if counselling feels right

What Happens During Our 30 Minutes Together

Getting Comfortable (First 5 minutes):

- Brief introductions and technical check
- I'll explain how the consultation works
- You can ask any immediate questions about the process

Your Story & Current Situation (15-20 minutes):

- Share what's brought you to consider counselling right now
- Discuss what you're hoping to achieve or work on
- Talk about any previous therapy experiences (if relevant)
- I'll ask gentle questions to understand your needs better

Practical Information (Final 5-10 minutes):

- Overview of how I work and my approach
- Discussion of session frequency, location options (online/ face-to-face in Herne Bay)
- Pricing: £45 per 50-minute session, or £350 for a 10-session package
- Next steps if you'd like to proceed

What This Consultation Is:

- A safe space to share what's on your mind without judgment
- An opportunity to see if we're a good fit to work together
- Completely free no obligation to book further sessions
- Confidential everything we discuss stays between us
- Your time ask any questions about counselling, my approach, or practical matters

What This Consultation Isn't:

- X A therapy session we won't dive deep into therapeutic work
- X Diagnostic I won't be making any clinical assessments
- Pressured there's no expectation to book sessions immediately
- X Rushed we'll take the full 30 minutes if you need it

Common Questions People Ask

"What if I get emotional during the consultation?"

That's completely normal and okay. I'll support you through any feelings that come up, and we can pause or slow down anytime you need.

"What if I'm not sure counselling is right for me?"

Perfect - that's exactly what this consultation is for! We'll explore this together, and there's no pressure either way.

"Can I ask about your qualifications and experience?"

Absolutely! I'm happy to discuss my training (DIP.COUNS MBACP), ADHD specialisation, and experience working with teens and adults.

"What happens if we're not a good match?"

I can suggest other therapists or approaches that might suit you better. Finding the right fit is crucial for successful therapy.

After Our Consultation

If You'd Like to Proceed

- I'll send a follow-up email within 24 hours
- You'll receive online forms to complete via Zanda (my booking system)
- · We'll schedule your first session at a time that works for you
- You'll get clear directions if choosing face-to-face sessions in Herne Bay

If You Need Time to Think

- No pressure at all take all the time you need
- You can contact me anytime if questions come up later
- The door remains open whenever you're ready

If We're Not the Right Match

- I'll provide recommendations for other therapists or resources
- You're welcome to contact me in future if your needs change

My Approach - What You Can Expect

I work in a person-centred way, which means:

- You lead the conversation and set the pace
- I won't give advice or tell you what to do
- We'll work collaboratively to understand your experiences
- I specialise in supporting neurodivergent individuals, particularly those with ADHD
- Sessions are typically weekly, though we can adjust frequency as needed

Practical Details

- Duration: 30 minutes maximum
- · Cost: Completely free
- Platform: Zoom (link provided via email)
- Follow-up: Email within 24 hours
- Booking: No commitment required

Questions to Consider (Optional):

If it helps, you might think about:

- What's prompted you to consider counselling now?
- What would you like to be different in your life?
- Any concerns or questions about the counselling process?
- Preference for online vs face-to-face sessions?

Remember - there are no right or wrong answers, and you don't need to prepare anything specific.

Contact Information

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Face-to-face sessions: Herne Bay, Kent

Online sessions: UK & Ireland

This consultation is your opportunity to explore counselling in a relaxed, no-pressure environment. I look forward to meeting you and learning how I might be able to support your journey. - Jess :)