



Association for Family &
Systemic Psychotherapy

EVENTS WELCOME NOTICE

Our Ethical Principles for the AFSP AGM, it's Board of Trustees, members and staff

These ethical principles are applicable to all member contexts including meetings, email communications and events.

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Guidelines for AFSP Conferences, Forums and Events

AFSP seeks to provide an environment – both in-person and online – that is accessible, welcoming and respectful for all members and participants. In common with other organisations and events, we have developed these guidelines to support our participants to have a clear understanding of expectations.

While we strive for a safe space, we acknowledge that safety cannot always be guaranteed and relies on our collective accountability and responsibility to foster an environment that is respectful and upholds our profession with integrity. We encourage a brave space – one that fosters open, systemic dialogue, even in moments of discomfort. We invite us to create a structure that supports our community to get the most out of our time together with shared values, aspirations and expectations.

Feedback from members is welcome.

Ethical Relational Principles: to promote inclusion during events, AFSP encourages attentive listening, with opportunities for participants to respond and engage in lively and open-minded discussion. Participants are expected to contribute to such discussions constructively and in a way that is respectful of others who may have other perspectives and ways of thinking. We value diverse perspectives and experiences and ask that participants stay alert to any assumptions they may be making based on personal characteristics such as, but not exhaustive to, sex, gender identity, race, religion, culture, spirituality, ability, physical challenges, neurodiversity, background, age or appearance.

These guidelines apply to all aspects of the conference including breaks and social events, and apply to speech, behaviour, written material and visual representations. Participants should remain mindful of power dynamics and privilege, fostering mutual respect and curiosity.

Specific Guidelines

1. It is understood all participants will treat each other with courtesy, respect, and consideration, acknowledging diverse perspectives.
2. All participants maintain professional standards in all interactions, including language and conduct, and act according to the AFSP Code of Ethics.
3. In these times with increased polarisation, we expect participants to show that the contrary is possible, an attitude of curiosity, exploration, empathy, listening and friendliness.
4. Participants must show restraint and courtesy, and not engage in demeaning, discriminatory, or harassing speech and actions, recognising that responses may vary based on individual values, cultures, backgrounds, and status.
5. Contributions must aim to enrich the community acknowledge individual differences and treat everyone thoughtfully, recognising the value of diverse viewpoints, backgrounds, and experiences.
6. Clearly communicate the content and focus of presentations, being aware of potential sensitivities to material presented or discussed. Where content in a presentation may be sensitive or distressing to certain groups, consider a content warning and respect the emotional response that people may have to this content.
7. Participate collaboratively and respectfully in discussions, focusing on ideas rather than individuals.
8. Where personal experiences are shared in workshops, they should remain confidential unless explicit permission is given to share them.
9. Wearing or displaying items which signify affiliation to a social or political causes are not forbidden, but we ask that you give consideration to how such displays will be viewed by others and whether they help meet the spirit of these guidelines.
10. Avoid unwelcome solicitation and physical contact.
11. Follow directions provided by meeting organisers.
12. To help the conference runs smoothly, adhere to allocated times in both presentations and discussions to ensure the schedule runs smoothly. Be punctual at session start and end times.

Reporting concerns and breaches of Code of Ethics, and AFSP Event guidelines

If you have concerns regarding any member who has not met the required expectations of professional conduct and behaviours as listed above, during an event, you should report these to a staff member. Your concerns will be taken seriously and appropriate action taken in line with organisational policy and procedures.

By attending an AFSP event, we agree to uphold these values and contribute to a culture of collective care and respect

This document is to be read in conjunction with the AFSP Code of Ethics and UKCP Code of Ethics