Scarborough Counselling & Psychotherapy Training Institute

Trainers Code of Ethics

1. The purpose of this Code of Ethics and Practice is to establish and maintain standards of conduct for SCPTI trainers and to inform and protect members of the public seeking training at SCPTI, whatever the level or length of the training course. Both in the explicit training they conduct and in the example that they set, SCPTI trainers are in the forefront of shaping the public perception of the integrity and value of SCPTI.

2. Much information and learning material on counselling and psychotherapy is available in the public domain in a variety of media and is subject to copyright and licensing rules. Some unpublished material which is the intellectual property of researchers, developers and trainers is made available to trainees participating in training courses. It is in everyone's interest that the ownership of such intellectual property is acknowledged.

3. During a SCPTI training course, trainees may find themselves in a vulnerable situation where painful and potentially difficult material may be revealed which needs handling in a caring and sensitive manner. It is the responsibility of the trainer to ensure this happens, and that at all times trainees feel they and their confidentiality are being handled safely.

4. This Code of Ethics and Practice applies equally to core training staff, training assistants, and visiting or occasional trainers and assessors on recognised SCPTI training courses. Please note that this Code of Ethics and Practice for SCPTI Trainers is in addition to the SCPTI/UKCP code of ethics to which all trainees and members agree to adhere.

SCPTI TRAINERS CODE OF ETHICS

5. Trainers are responsible for observing the principles embodied in this Code of Ethics and Practice and the current codes of any professional bodies of which they are members. They are responsible for introducing trainees to the SCPTI Code of Ethics at an early stage in the training course.

6. Trainers must recognise the value and dignity of trainees with due regard to issues of origin, status, gender, age, beliefs, sexual orientation or disability. Trainers have a responsibility to be aware of their own issues of prejudice and stereotyping and particularly to consider ways in which this may be affecting the training relationship.

7. Trainers have a responsibility to encourage and facilitate the self-development of trainees.

8. Trainers are responsible for establishing and maintaining appropriate boundaries between themselves and trainees so that working relationships are not confused with friendship or other relationships.

9. Trainers must not exploit their trainees financially, sexually, emotionally or in any other way.

10. Visiting or occasional trainers on training courses must ensure that they take responsibility for any pre-existing professional or personal relationship with any member of the training group.

11. Trainers should commit themselves to continuing professional development as trainers.

12. Trainers must regularly monitor their training work and be able and willing to account to trainees and colleagues for what they do and why.

13. Trainers must regularly monitor and evaluate the limits of their competence as trainers by means of regular consultation with appropriately qualified and experienced colleagues.

14. Trainers have a responsibility to themselves and to their trainees to maintain their own effectiveness and ability to work with trainees. They are expected to monitor their own personal functioning and to seek help and/or withdraw from training, whether temporarily or permanently, when their personal resources are insufficient to support their continued effectiveness.

15. Trainers are responsible for establishing a contract for confidential working which makes explicit the responsibilities of both trainers and trainees.

16. Detailed information about specific trainees or former trainees may be used for publication or in meetings only with the trainees? permission and with anonymity preserved.