

Policy on Use of CAPPchat and CAPPP's Membership List *(including referrals policy)*

1. Code of Communication:

CAPPchat is a self-moderating forum, and it is members' responsibility to maintain it as a space of respect, integrity and safety, in which open communication can take place, and where difference is respected.

Communications on CAPPchat should be conducted in a spirit of mutual respect.

Members should address and discuss disagreements on the way communication is carried out in the first instance privately rather than openly. If no resolution can be achieved, the matter can be taken up with the CAPPP committee.

2. Permitted uses of CAPPchat and the CAPPP membership list

CAPPchat and the CAPPP membership list may be used for the following:

- a) Sharing and requesting information, on professional and self-development matters only, including:

Work opportunities

Rooms for hire

Supervision and supervision groups

Referrals (see below for further guidelines)

Workshops and training opportunities (see below for further guidelines)

Any other professional matters

- b) General discussion of professional and community matters

- c) Information from the CAPPP committee and administrator, such as:

- Details of CAPPP organised events
- News and updates from the committee to members.
- Administrative information and messages
- Details from counselling and psychotherapy organizations with whom CAPPP has a reciprocal arrangement about courses and events they are offering. (we do not share your details but simply forward event details via cappchat)

3. Etiquette around subject lines, attachments and replies

There can be a lot of emails sent via CAPPchat, so please respect your colleagues' time by following this simple etiquette:

- a) Subject line: Include a 'Topic Word' and enough information in the subject line to enable recipients to decide whether the email is likely to be of interest to them

- b) Attachments: There should be enough information in the body of the email to enable recipients to decide whether they are interested in opening the attachment
- c) Large attachments: Please consider uploading large attachments to a service such as Dropbox and providing a link in your email, rather than sending it to every CAPPP member's inbox via CAPPchat. (Dropbox has a free basic account available.)
- d) Replies: Please consider whether your reply to a post needs to go to one person or to the entire CAPPP membership. Choose "Reply" or "Reply to All" accordingly.

4. Referrals Guidelines

The committee have formulated the following guidelines, to help us all with taking care around information disclosed about the client seeking a therapist. (We also offer suggested templates for referrals and replies, below.)

- a) The request for referral should be brief, focusing on the type of therapist/therapy required e.g. location, maximum fee, times, specialist knowledge or approach etc. A template to capture this information is given below and it is recommended that this be used to aid consistency.
- b) The client's identity should always be protected.
- c) Any personal information should be kept to an absolute minimum, e.g. approximate age or gender can be given if relevant, but **not** their name, contact details, where they live, their story or issues.
- d) The client's consent must be obtained before disclosing any information accompanying the referral.
- e) The referring therapist should not disclose their relationship to the client or their views about the client.
- f) Replies should be addressed back to the CAPPP member making the request not to the CAPPP forum.
- g) CAPPP members making the request should not make recommendations to the client about therapists but should merely pass on the information received.

Please refer to **Code of Communication** above if necessary.

5. Suggested templates for referrals and replies

The following templates may be used to keep referrals simple and within the guidelines above

Suggested template for referrals:

- Male or Female therapist (if specified)
- Acceptable locations
- Maximum fee (if specified)
- Times specified
- Any specialist approaches or areas of experience specified
- Any other restrictions or specifications

Suggested template for replies:

- Name of therapist

- Contact details (telephone, email, website)
- Location
- Availability
- Fee
- Any other information which may be helpful to the client

6. Advertising Workshops Policy

Only workshops and trainings delivered or organized by CAPPP members, or by an organisation with whom we have reciprocal arrangements, may be posted on CAPPPchat. Please do not publicize events on behalf of anyone who is not a member. Please exercise moderation when advertising your workshop. Please limit yourself to two, or at most three, posts regarding any workshop.

7. CAPPPchat Security:

In order to maintain the integrity of cappppchat and to help avoid unauthorised access and the potential spread of unsolicited mail, spam, viruses etc, please do not add the cappppchat email address to any mail group or news group etc in your own email programme contacts list. To avoid this, when sending an email to cappppchat do not add any other recipients to the message and when sending an email to non-members do not add the cappppchat email to a list of recipients. This would also be a breach of GDPR (General Data Protection Regulations).

8. Data Protection: CAPPP Members details:

The email addresses and contact details of CAPPP Members are covered by the Data Protection Act 1998 and later GDPR regulations. It is illegal to copy and add any part of these details to the data base or mailing list of any other organisation or individual. Please remember to respect the privacy of members at all times.