



CENTRE FOR
FORENSIC HOPE

RESEARCH · LIVED EXPERIENCE · RENEWAL

*Improving lives in forensic communities
through the advancement of hope*

Code of Conduct

The standards every member of the Centre agrees to uphold

Version 1.0 · June 2026

Centre For Forensic Hope Ltd · A company limited by guarantee · Non-profit making

Company number: 17294992

Dignity is unconditional. It is not something that has to be earned.

forensichope.org.uk

1. Purpose and Scope

1.1 This Code of Conduct sets out the standards of behaviour expected of every member of the Centre for Forensic Hope, in every category of membership, and of every Fellow and holder of the Forensic Hope Psychologist (FHP) designation.

1.2 The Code applies to conduct in all Centre contexts: events, training, research activity, meetings, online spaces and forums, member communications, and any setting in which a person is identifiable as a member of the Centre, including the use of post-nominal letters.

1.3 Every member agrees to be bound by this Code on admission, under clause 8.3 of the Constitution. Breach of this Code is a ground for suspension or termination of membership under clause 9.3 of the Constitution.

1.4 The Code is read alongside the Constitution, the Membership Guide, and the Mission & Values document, including the Centre's Commitment to People with Lived Experience.

2. Core Standards

Every member shall:

- (a) treat every person — members, participants, colleagues, and the public — with dignity, respect, and courtesy;
- (b) uphold the Centre's values, including hope as a clinical and moral necessity and the centrality of lived experience;
- (c) act with honesty and integrity in all professional, research, and Centre activity, and represent their qualifications, experience, and membership category accurately;
- (d) use post-nominal letters only as authorised by the Constitution, and never represent Centre designations as statutory registration or a legally protected title;
- (e) respect confidentiality and privacy, including the privacy of people in forensic settings and the consent-based nature of the Centre's member directory;
- (f) conduct research ethically, with appropriate approvals, informed consent, and fair recognition of all contributors, including those with lived experience;
- (g) comply with the law and with the professional and regulatory obligations of any body to which they belong; and
- (h) refrain from conduct that brings, or risks bringing, the Centre into disrepute.

3. Respect for People with Lived Experience

The knowledge of people who have lived through forensic settings or incarceration is central to the Centre. Their dignity is protected absolutely within it.

Zero tolerance — a notice to all members

Any discrimination, harassment, victimisation, bullying, or stigmatising treatment directed at a person because of their lived experience of forensic settings or incarceration — including their conviction history, detention history, or self-declared Lived Experience Membership — is treated by the Centre as serious misconduct, and may result in suspension or termination of membership, and withdrawal of any Fellowship or FHP designation, under clause 9.3 of the Constitution.

This includes, without limitation:

- (a) excluding, demeaning, or treating a person less favourably because of their lived experience or Lived Experience Membership;
- (b) harassment in any form — unwanted conduct that violates a person's dignity or creates an intimidating, hostile, degrading, humiliating, or offensive environment — whether in person or online;
- (c) using stigmatising, dehumanising, or offence-defining language about people with lived experience, in Centre spaces or while identifiable as a member;
- (d) pressuring any person to disclose, or disclosing without consent, another person's conviction history, detention history, diagnosis, or lived experience status;
- (e) requiring or pressuring a person with lived experience to recount traumatic experiences as a condition of participation; and
- (f) victimising any person for raising a concern under this Code in good faith.

3.1 The same standards of respect apply to discrimination or harassment on the basis of any protected characteristic under the Equality Act 2010 — age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation — and the Centre treats lived experience of forensic settings with equivalent seriousness within its own community, whether or not the law requires it.

4. Professional and Online Conduct

4.1 Members engaging in debate — including critical debate about the Centre, its research, or the forensic system — are expected to do so with candour and respect. Disagreement is welcome; disrespect is not.

4.2 In online spaces, members observe the same standards as in person. Members identifiable as Centre members (including by post-nominals) are mindful that their conduct reflects on the Centre and its community.

4.3 Members in positions of trust — trainers, researchers, mentors, committee members — must not abuse the authority or access those positions provide.

5. Raising Concerns

5.1 Any person — member or not — may raise a concern about a member's conduct by writing to **enquiries@forensichope.org.uk**. Concerns are handled with discretion and proportionality, and the privacy of all parties is respected.



5.2 A person who raises a concern in good faith will not suffer any detriment for doing so, whether or not the concern is upheld.

5.3 The Centre may act on conduct that comes to its attention by any route, and is not limited to acting only on formal complaints.

6. Sanctions and Process

6.1 Where the Board considers that a member may have breached this Code, the process in clause 9.4 of the Constitution applies: written notice of the grounds, at least 14 days to respond, decision by the Board excluding any conflicted Director, and a right of appeal within 21 days to a panel not involved in the original decision.

6.2 Sanctions are proportionate to the seriousness of the breach and may include: advice or a written warning; conditions on continued membership; suspension; termination of membership; and withdrawal of any Fellowship or of the FHP designation, under clauses 7.3 and 9.3 of the Constitution.

6.3 Conduct described in Part 3 of this Code is treated as serious misconduct for which suspension or termination will ordinarily be considered, even on a first occasion.

6.4 On termination, the right to use post-nominal letters and to hold any Centre designation ceases immediately, under clause 7.4 of the Constitution.

7. Status of this Code

7.1 This Code is made by the Board under the Constitution. Material amendments require the approval of members by ballot under clause 12.10(c) of the Constitution.

7.2 This Code takes effect on 21 June 2026 and applies to all current and future members.

Code of Conduct v1.0, adopted by the Board of Centre For Forensic Hope Ltd on 21 June 2026. Read alongside the Constitution (v2.0), the Membership Guide, and Mission & Values (v2.0) at forensichope.org.uk.