

International Consortium of PLAY THERAPY ASSOCIATIONS

Integrity • Quality

International Consortium of Play Therapy Associations (IC-PTA)

Statement of Values, Intercultural Collaboration, and Communication

Purpose:

This document outlines the values and standards for intercultural collaboration and communication among IC-PTA members. It aims to foster a respectful, inclusive, and effective working environment.

This document is in two sections:

Section 1: States IC-PTA values and summarises the guidance of intercultural collaboration and communication between IC-PTA members¹

Section 2: Maps the 'IC-PTA Play Therapy Education Competencies and Standards of Practice' (Personal Qualities) onto a specific guidance for IC-PTA members.

Section 1

Statement of Values and Guidance for Intercultural Collaboration and Communication Between IC-PTA Members

Values Statement (Integrity and Quality)

The IC-PTA is guided by the following core values:

- Integrity: We aim to uphold the highest standards of ethical practice and professionalism in Play Therapy according to the 'IC-PTA Play Therapy Education Competencies and Standards of Practice' with honesty, respect and transparency.
- Quality: We are dedicated to promote and encourage the maintenance of the highest levels of Play Therapy competency, training, and supervision so that children in every country receive the best possible care.

N.B. Bylaw Committee recommend that it is premature to include references to therapeutic play as professional practice because "Therapeutic Play Education Competencies and Standards of Practice" have not yet been drafted for presentation to the BoD (This was agreed by ICC Task Force 17.09.24, and recommended to the BoD)

We aim to do this by

Communication: Members shall engage in open, transparent, and constructive communication, actively listening to others' viewpoints and expressing their ideas clearly and respectfully.

¹ Members refers to Operating, Organisational, and Individual members

Collaboration: We believe in the power of collaboration and partnership, working together with National Play Therapy Associations, professionals, and other stakeholders to advance the field of Play Therapy including the application of therapeutic play.

Members shall foster a cooperative environment, encouraging teamwork, and supporting each other's professional growth throughout intercultural and multilingual collaborations. We acknowledge that IC-PTA currently uses English as our default/common language. We will strive to provide an accessible online environment that includes information translation.

Integrity and Honesty: Members shall act with integrity and honesty, upholding ethical standards and undertake to manage conflict of interest, perceived conflict of interest, and dual relationships when unavoidable.

Conflict Resolution: In case of disagreements or conflicts, members shall approach resolution with a problem-solving mindset, seeking common ground and mutually beneficial outcomes. Members are encouraged to use a structured process for conflict resolution, such as mediation or facilitated dialogue.
(see *ICC Conflict Resolution Procedure*)

Confidentiality: Members shall maintain the confidentiality of sensitive information shared within the IC-PTA, adhering to the IC-PTA Data Protection Policy and Privacy Statement, and respect any non-disclosure agreements.

Culture:

Cultural Sensitivity: We acknowledge and respect the diverse cultural contexts in which Play Therapy is practiced, striving to integrate cultural influences and ensure that our practices are inclusive and responsive to the needs of all children and families.

Social Responsibility: Members shall consider the broader social and environmental impacts of their decisions and actions, striving to contribute positively to a global network to advance Play Therapy and the application of therapeutic play.

- **Responsible Use of Resources:** Members shall use IC-PTA resources appropriately and efficiently and manage shared materials or technology responsibly.
- **Accountability:** Members shall take responsibility for their actions and commitments, delivering on promises and acknowledging and learning from mistakes or misunderstandings.
- **Cultural Sensitivity:** Members shall be culturally sensitive, understanding and appreciating the customs, traditions, and norms of others to address unintentional misunderstandings or offenses.
- **Adherence to Laws and Regulations:** Members shall comply with all applicable laws, regulations, and national agreements relevant to their professional and international activities.

Diversity:

Inclusiveness and Advocacy: We believe in actively advocating for the recognition and availability of Play Therapy services to promote inclusivity in our practice across the globe. We uphold the principle that all children, especially those who are marginalized or underserved, should have equitable access to quality Play Therapy services.

Respect and Inclusivity: Members shall treat each other with respect, dignity, and empathy, recognizing and valuing individual differences, cultural diversity, and perspectives.

Diversity and Inclusion: Members shall actively promote diversity and inclusion within the IC-PTA and encourage equal opportunities for all members to contribute and participate.

Respecting Diversity: Members shall not engage in any form of discrimination based on race, ethnicity, gender, religion, nationality, sexual orientation, or any other protected characteristic. A "protected characteristic" refers to a

specific personal characteristic or attribute that is legally protected from discrimination and harassment in various contexts. The concept of protected characteristics is often a part of anti-discrimination and equal opportunity laws and policies aimed at promoting fairness, equality, and preventing discrimination and unequal treatment.

Section 2

Mapping the 'IC-PTA Play Therapy Education Competencies and Standards of Practice' (Personal Qualities) onto a specific guidance for IC-PTA members.

IC-PTA - Personal Qualities	IC-PTA – Personal Qualities in context of IC-PTA intercultural collaborations.
Empathy: To empathise with the emotional and psychological expressions, experiences and needs of clients and significant others.	Empathy: To empathise with the emotional and psychological expressions, experiences and needs of members within the IC-PTA whereby international colleagues may have different culture, language, religion, ethnicity.
Sincerity: Commitment to being authentic and genuine to self and others.	Sincerity: Commitment to being authentic and genuine to self and others, including interactions with all members of IC-PTA.
Honesty: To act truthfully and with integrity towards self and others.	Honesty: To act truthfully and with integrity towards self and other IC-PTA members.
Respect: To acknowledge and show acceptance towards other people's understanding, experiences, and abilities.	Respect: To acknowledge and show acceptance towards other people's understanding, experiences, and abilities.
Ethical: To be committed to ethical practice and able to comply with the ethical code and values defined by the relevant board/licensing body/association wherein the play therapist is practicing.	Ethical: To be committed to ethical practice and able to comply with the ethics and values defined by the IC-PTA.
Knowledgeable: To be able to apply knowledge, evidence, and experience critically. Self-awareness: To assess, review and consider own competencies, strengths, and weaknesses as a Play Therapist.	Knowledgeable: To be able to apply knowledge, evidence, and experience critically. To assess, review and consider own competencies, strengths, and limitations in relation to contributing as an IC-PTA member.
Self-responsibility: To operate and practise efficiently within own level of competencies. Congruence: To be authentic and genuine in conduct with clients and significant others.	Self-responsibility: To operate and practice efficiently within own level of competencies. Congruence: To be authentic and genuine in conduct with fellow IC-PTA members.
Compassion: To be emotionally warm, caring and	Compassion: To be emotionally warm, caring and concerned towards others.

concerned towards others.	
Critical Reflection: To critically reflect upon the emotional, social, and psychological world of clients, significant others, and the Self and to integrate reflection into practice.	Critical Reflection: To critically reflect upon the emotional, social, and psychological world of fellow IC-PTA members and the Self and to integrate reflection into all interactions and collaborations.
Commitment to professional development: To continue professional development as a Play Therapist in a responsible and effective manner.	Commitment to professional development: The IC-PTA offers opportunities to facilitate international collaborations that support professional development.
Commitment to personal development: To be reflexive, to integrate personal insights into future practice, to continue personal development in a responsible and effective manner.	Commitment to personal development: To be reflexive, to integrate personal insights into future practice, to continue personal development in a responsible and effective manner and to apply high standards of reflexivity in contributing to the development of the IC-PTA through international collaborations.