

The Story of the Standards

We have now completed the Charter for Social Pedagogy and the Standards. Some people have asked why we have both a Charter and Standards. The Charter is there for all members of the Social Pedagogy Professional Association to sign up to. It is a general statement of values and ethics that apply to all members in their daily life as well as social pedagogy practitioners. The Standards provide the frame for the qualifications we are developing in social pedagogy. They are the reference point for all social pedagogy diplomas.



Group Play. Winner of the photo competition.

We thought you might also like to know how we arrived at the Charter and the Standards. We have consulted and edited in an iterative process. We invited members of SPDN to a consultation event for around 40 people on 4 April 2016 with the Crossfields Institute, who are our qualifications development partners. The attendees worked on identifying values and principles for social pedagogy.

- These statements were recorded and shaped into draft format and brought to the project core group of Jacaranda, Thempra, and UCL IOE representatives on 11 and 12 April.
- Crossfields then developed these revised statements into a SurveyMonkey questionnaire that was sent out to those on the SPDN database for comment during May 2016. There were 70 responses with a high degree of agreement among those responding. Nearly all (97 per cent) agreed that the draft charter expressed the value base of social pedagogy. There was also a very high level of agreement that the statements in the two parts of the standards (Part 1 Philosophy and Haltung; Part 2 Practice) were essential or desirable in social pedagogy. There were some critical comments and these were woven in, in the next iteration, mostly to try to avoid repetition or lack of clarity and in some cases to introduce new topics.
- The revised draft Charter and Standards went to SPDN in Aberdeen on 10 June for a final review. Two open space forums were held, where all comments were noted.
- A final version, incorporating all comments, so far as possible, was agreed by the project core group, on 16 June.

Read about the Charter and Standards [here](#). They will also be on the website. We hope you are content with the final result. We said during the consultation period that we envisaged the Charter and Standards as being open to renewal. For this we anticipate a two month period of revision each year. We will bring you more details on this when we can.

SPPA UPDATE

It's been six months since we started the project to build up social pedagogy in the UK through a membership organisation and two social pedagogy diplomas. Here's an update on project progress. **Read further about these updates on page two.**

Our team is growing. Carla Aylmore has joined us as Project Officer and we are in the process of appointing a course administrator.

SPPA will become a charity

We have taken legal advice and SPPA will be a Charitable company limited by guarantee.

The SPPA website

Thank you to those who contributed photos! We are developing the webpages.

Membership benefits

We've developed some ideas – we want to know your thoughts.

Membership benefits

We have started discussing the potential membership benefits that we would be offering. Some of our ideas include the following:

- Offering continuous professional development opportunities through conferences, education days, regional and networking events, short courses, webinars, online resources and twitter chats on specific topics
- Facilitating networking with like-minded colleagues through special interest groups and events
- Establishing platforms to be heard including blogs and newsletters
- Developing support mechanisms through a mentoring scheme and online forum
- Enabling involvement in various projects/events/activities through a project bank, regional events and other member-led activities

What do you think about these ideas? Get in touch and let us know.



SPPA will become a charity

It is now clear that SPPA will become a charitable company limited by guarantee. We plan to establish interim arrangements for getting the charity/company up and running before elections to the board at an AGM in 2017. Watch this space for more details.



The SPPA website

Thank you to those who contributed photos for the SPPA website. We are currently developing the various pages of the website. We're writing the copy about the mission and vision of SPPA, identifying our aims and objectives, uploading photos and videos about social pedagogy, outlining the membership offer, and developing pages to make it as engaging and accessible as possible for you. We will continuously update you on the progress of the website.

Our team is growing

We are delighted to welcome Carla Aylmore to the team. Carla has a background in running a membership organisation for doctors, working for the Alzheimer's Society and for UCL IOE's short courses team. She has already brought a wealth of ideas and sensible suggestions for ways forward. We hope to appoint a course administrator to support the social pedagogy diplomas soon too.

What's next for SPPA?

The autumn will be busy for SPPA.

- Anticipated launch of SPPA in November 2016. So we will be open for members!
- Introducing our first Level 3 qualification. This will mean that those people who have completed training with our Centres – Jacaranda and ThemPra – will be able to register for accreditation at Level 3. More details of this initiative will be coming out soon, including details about assessment requirements.
- Developing Standards for Education and Training so that those organisations that offer social pedagogy training and meet the Standards can become registered with SPPA.

We'd like to hear from you. Get in touch.

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